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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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          FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
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                    HARRISBURG DIVISION
     RICKY A. SHAW,
                                 : CASE NO.
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                            : 1:09-cv-00359
               Plaintiff
4
             VS.
     CUMBERLAND TRUCK
               COMPANY, : Harrisburg, PA
Defendant : 16 May 2011
     EQUIPMENT COMPANY,
5
           ..... 9:30 a.m.
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           TRANSCRIPT OF CIVIL JURY TRIAL, DAY 1
        BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER C. CONNER
8
                UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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1 2 3	I N D E X Ricky Shaw vs. Cumberland Truck Equipment Co. 1:09-CV-00359 Civil Jury Trial, Day 1 16 May 2011
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5	PROCEEDINGS_
6	Page
7	Preliminary instructions by the Court 3
8	Opening statement by Mr. Crocenzi 20
9	Opening statement by Ms. Saltz 33
10	PLAINTIFF WITNESSES
11	<u>Charles Hoffman</u> :
12 13 14	Direct examination by Mr. Crocenzi 44 Cross examination by Ms. Saltz 58 Redirect by Mr. Crocenzi 73 Examination by the Court 77
15	<u>John Patrick Whitmire</u> :
16 17 18	Direct examination Mr. Russo Cross examination by Ms. Saltz Redirect by Mr. Russo Recross by Ms. Saltz 132
19	Reading of deposition of Tim Kline 140
20	<u>Bryan Sheldon</u> :
21222324	Direct examination by Mr. Crocenzi 144 Cross examination by Mr. Saltz 160 Redirect by Mr. Crocenzi 177, 191 Recross by Ms. Saltz 190
25	

PROCEEDINGS 1 (Civil jury selection from 9:30 to 10:40 2 a.m.) 3 THE COURT: Is counsel satisfied with jury 4 selection and prepared to proceed with trial? 5 MR. CROCENZI: Yes, Your Honor. 6 7 MS. SALTZ: The defense is, Your Honor. THE COURT: Very good. Ms. McKinney, would 8 you swear in the jury? 9 (The jury was sworn at 10:41 a.m.) 10 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, for those 11 of you who were not selected, please again thank 12 you for your participation in today's voir dire 13 process. I would ask you at this time to return 14 to the seventh floor. Please make sure you 15 bring with you all of your belongings, and thank 16 you for your participation. You will receive 17 further instructions on the seventh floor. 18 (Brief pause.) 19 THE COURT: Counsel, I have some preliminary 20 21 instructions that I will give to the jury. Then we will take a break and start with opening 22 statements. 2.3 MR. CROCENZI: Thank you. 24 MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor. 25

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, you have now been sworn in as the jury in this case, and before we begin the trial itself I have some preliminary instructions about these proceedings and about your conduct and duties as jurors.

The case will proceed as follows. First each side may make opening statements. What is said in opening statements is not evidence but is simply an outline to help you understand what each party expects the evidence to show.

A party is not required to make an opening statements. After the opening statements counsel for Mr. Shaw will present evidence in support of Mr. Shaw's claims, and counsel for Cumberland Truck Equipment Company may cross examine the witnesses presented by Mr. Shaw. At the conclusion of Mr. Shaw's case counsel for Cumberland Truck Equipment Company may introduce its evidence and counsel for Mr. Shaw may cross examine witnesses that are introduced by Cumberland Truck Equipment Company. The parties in this case may present the testimony of a witness by reading from their deposition transcript.

A deposition is the sworn testimony of a

witness taken before trial, and it is entitled to the same consideration as if the witness had testified at trial. After all of the evidence is presented counsel may make closing arguments explaining what they believe the evidence has shown. What is said in closing arguments is not evidence.

Finally, I'll instruct you on the law that you are to apply in reaching your verdict and you will then decide the case. By your verdict you will decide disputed issues of fact. I will decide all questions of the law that arise during the course of the trial. Before you begin your deliberations at the close of the case I will instruct you in more detail on the law that you must follow and apply. It will be your duty to find from the evidence what the facts are. You and you alone will be the judges of the facts. You will then have to apply those facts to the law as the court will give it to you, and you must follow that law whether you agree with it or not.

The evidence from which you will find the facts will consist of the testimony of the witnesses, the documents and other things

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received into the record as exhibits, and any facts that the lawyers agree to, or stipulate to, or that the court may instruct you to find. When I said admitted into evidence or received into evidence, I mean that the particular statement or exhibit may be considered by you in making the decisions that you must make at the end of the case.

When I have sustained an objection I am excluding that evidence from this trial for a good reason. When you hear that I have overruled an objection I am permitting that evidence to be admitted. If you are instructed that some item of evidence is received only for a limited purpose, you must follow that instruction. Certain things are not evidence and must not be considered by you. First, statements, arguments, and questions by lawyers are not evidence. Second, objections to questions are not evidence. Third, testimony that the court has excluded or told you to disregard is not evidence and must not be considered. Fourth, anything that you may have seen or heard outside the courtroom is not evidence and must be disregarded. You are to

decide the case solely on the evidence presented here in the courtroom.

Because you will be asked to decide the facts of this case you should give careful attention to the testimony and evidence as it is being presented. At the end of the trial you will have to make your decision based on what you recall of the evidence. If you are unable to hear a witness or a lawyer, please raise your hand immediately and I will see that this is corrected. If you wish, you may take notes during the presentation of the evidence, the summations of the attorneys, and at the conclusion of evidence and during my instructions to you on the law.

My courtroom deputy will arrange for pens, pencils, and paper, and remember that your notes are for your own personal use. They are not to be given or read to anyone else. As you can see we have a court reporter here who will be transcribing the testimony during the course of the trial, but you will not have a written transcript to consult during your deliberations. Therefore please pay close attention to the testimony as it is given. You should not

consider your notes that you or your fellow jurors may take as some sort of written transcript. Instead, as you listen to the testimony keep in mind that you will be relying on your recollection of that testimony during your deliberations.

2.1

There are some other specific points to keep in mind about note taking. First, note taking is permitted, not required. Each of you may take notes, but no one is required to take notes. Second, be brief. Do not try to summarize all the testimony. Notes are for the purpose of refreshing your memory. They are particularly helpful when dealing with measurements, times, distances, identities, and relationships. Overuse of note taking may be distracting. You must determine the credibility of witnesses, so you must observe the demeanor and appearance of each person on the witness stand. Note taking must not distract you from that task.

If you wish to make a note, you need not sacrifice the opportunity to make important observation. You may make your note after having made an observation. Also, do not use

your notes or any other jurors' notes as authority to persuade fellow jurors in your deliberations. Give no more or less weight to the views of the fellow juror because that juror did or did not take note. Your notes are not official transcripts.

They are not evidence and they are by no moans a complete outline of the proceedings or a list of the highlights in the trial. They are valuable, if at all, only as a way to refresh your memory. Your memory is what you should be relying on when it comes time to deliberate and render your verdict in this case. You therefore are not to use your notes as authority to persuade fellow jurors of what the evidence was during the trial. Notes are not to be use in place of the evidence.

Fourth, and finally, do not take your notes away from court. When the court is in recess for a break or for lunch, take your notes with your to the jury room. If you leave the building your notes must remain in the jury room, and at the end of each day my courtroom deputy will secure your notes overnight and return them to you the following morning. When

this case ends after you have had an opportunity to use your notes during the course of deliberations a court officer will collect and destroy them to protect the secrecy and integrity of your deliberations.

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Ladies and gentlemen, it will be up to you to decide which witnesses to believe, which witnesses not to believe, and how much of any witness's testimony to accept or to reject. will instruct you at the end of the trial about determining the credibility or the believability of the witnesses. During the trial please keep an open mind, and you should not form or express any opinion about the case until you have heard all of the testimony and all of the evidence, the closing arguments, and my instructions to you on the law. From time to time during the course of the trial I may make rulings on objections or motions. Lawyers have a duty to object when the other side offers testimony or evidence that the lawyer believes is not admissible at trial.

You should not be unfair or partial against a lawyer or the lawyer's client because the lawyer has made objections. If I sustain or

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uphold an objection to a question that goes unanswered by the witness, you should not draw any inferences or conclusions from the question itself. You should not infer or conclude from any ruling or other comment that I may make that I have any opinions on the merits of this case favoring one side or the other. I do not favor one side or the other.

Nothing that the court may say or do during the course of the trial is intended to indicate or should be taken by you as indicating what your verdict should be. During the trial it may be necessary for me to speak with counsel out of your hearing either by having a conference at the bench while you're present in the courtroom or by calling a recess. The purpose of these conferences is to decide how certain evidence is to be treated under the rules of evidence and to avoid confusion and error. We will do our best to keep the number and length of these conferences to a minimum, but my main point in raising this is there may be some need for flexibility on your part so that we can address these evidentiary issues. If we do ask you, if we do take a recess and ask you to wait in the

jury deliberation room, please keep in mind that we are in the courtroom working while you are not here and we're doing our level best to move this case forward as expeditiously as possible within the confines of the rules of evidence.

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Finally, to ensure fairness you as jurors must obey the following rules. First, do not talk among yourselves about this case or about anyone involved in it until the end of the case when you go into the jury room to decide on your verdict. Second, do not talk with anyone else about this case or about anyone involved in it until the trial has ended and you have been discharged as jurors. Anyone else includes members of your family and your friends. You may tell people that you are a juror, but do not tell them anything else about the case, and you can tell them that you have a very strict presiding judge who requires you to obey that order, and this is a fairly new instruction, but you may also not communicate about this case via the internet, you may not blog or tweet about the case or events surrounding the case or your jury service.

Do not send an e-mail to anyone conveying

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your jury experience or information about this case, and do not use Facebook or other social networking websites to discuss your jury service or issues involved in this case, and I can assure you that if you do, the attorneys will find out about it and then I'll find out about it. If anyone should try to talk to you about the case please bring it to my attention promptly.

Third, during the trial you should not speak to any of the parties, lawyers, or witnesses involved in this case about any subject. You should not even pass the time of day with them. Any contact between you and an individual associated with a party in this case may be interpreted, rightly or wrongly, as reflecting an improper prejudice against the other side, and you must take care to avoid Please keep in mind that the individuals associated with this case, including the parties, witnesses, and lawyers are subject to the same rules. So when you see them at a recess or pass them in the hallway or outside the courthouse and they do not speak to you, they are not being rude or unfriendly. They are simply following my instructions.

Fourth, do not listen to any news stories or articles about this case or anyone involved in it. Fifth, do not undertake any research or make any investigation about this case on your own. This includes research via the internet. Many of you have cell phones, blackberries, or other handheld devices that may allow you to access websites, including Google. You may not use these devices or websites to do your own research about matters discussed in court, and the purpose of this instruction is not to withhold any information from you.

There are many rules that govern what evidence the parties may present to you, and you must decide this case based solely on the evidence that those rule allow you to hear. So to reiterate, do not perform any research on your own, including research from online sources. Finally, do not form any opinion until all of the evidence is in. Do not allow sympathy or prejudice to influence you. The law demands that you consider all of the evidence presented and that you render solely on the basis of that evidence a just verdict according

to the instructions that I give you. Keep an open mind until you start your deliberations at the end of the case.

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This is a civil case. Mr. Shaw is the party who brought this lawsuit. Cumberland Truck Equipment Company is the party against whom the lawsuit has been filed. Mr. Shaw has the burden of proving his case by what is called the preponderance of the evidence. That means that Mr. Shaw must prove to you in light of all of the evidence that what he claims is more likely so than not so. To say it differently, if you were to put the evidence favorable to Mr. Shaw and the evidence favorable to Cumberland Truck Equipment Company on opposite sides of the scales of justice, Mr. Shaw would have to make the scales tip somewhat on his side. If Mr. Shaw fails to meet this burden the verdict must be for Cumberland Truck Equipment Company.

You may have heard the term beyond a reasonable doubt. That is a stricter burden of proof that applies to criminal cases. It does not apply in civil cases such as this, so you should put it out of your mind. In this case

Mr. Shaw claims that Cumberland Truck Equipment Company discriminated against him on the basis of a perceived disability, failed to accommodate that disability that it perceived him as having, and retaliated against him for requesting accommodation.

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Cumberland Truck Equipment Company denies Mr. Shaw's allegations. I will give you detailed instructions on the law at the end of the case. For now just keep in mind that at the end of the trial you will be asked to resolve whether Cumberland Truck Equipment Company engaged in action that was adverse to Mr. Shaw as a result of perceived disability or as an act of retaliation for Mr. Shaw's request for accommodation. The trial will begin immediately after our break, and as I said I anticipate that it will last three to four days. I want to before excusing you for a brief break give you some idea of our schedule. We will return with opening statements by the parties, and then I assume we will be taking a lunch break. lunch break will be taken at approximately 12:15 for about an hour, and we'll do that each day.

morning and a 15-minute break in the afternoon. The morning break will be at approximately 10:30. The afternoon break will be at approximately 2:30 or 3:00. We'll conclude each day at approximately 5:00, and that depends on where we are with a particular witness. If we finish a witness at 4:45 we may not put another witness on the witness stand depending upon the anticipated length of that particular individual's testimony.

Tomorrow we will be starting at 9:00 a.m., and every day thereafter we will be starting at 9:00 a.m. So please try to arrive in the jury deliberation room at approximately 8:45 and give yourself some time for to deal with traffic situations, and I recognize that some of you are traveling from some distance and we very much appreciate that, and if you run into an unusual circumstance, please don't speed, drive safely, and we'll wait for you, believe me, if we need to. So that is our anticipated schedule. That will give you an opportunity to contact any family members either during this break coming up or over the lunch hour or when you arrive at home at the end of today's proceedings and give

them some idea as to what they can anticipate in terms of your absence from home or from employment.

At this time we'll take a 15-minute break. We'll return at 11:20 for opening statements of the parties. Ms. McKinney, at this time you may escort the jury. Ladies and gentlemen, please make sure that you have all your belongings in the courtroom, and Ms. McKinney will take you to your new sort of home base for the next several days. Ms. McKinney, please escort the jury. We are in recess until 11:20. Counsel, please stay.

(Jury recessed at 11:01 a.m.)

THE COURT: Counsel, I just wanted to ask if you have any demonstrative exhibits for purposes of your opening statements, have you had an opportunity to exchange them with each other or view them, and are there any issues with respect to the demonstrative exhibits?

MR. CROCENZI: The one I want to show the jury is Mr. Shaw's last performance evaluation. Defense counsel, she didn't seem to have any objection to that.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. CROCENZI: Also I just was reminded that 1 I will be referencing page 22 of Tim Kline's 2 deposition transcript. If you recall Mr. Kline 3 passed away --4 THE COURT: Is deceased. 5 MR. CROCENZI: -- and we will be reading his 6 7 transcript. There are portions that we have not been able to agree on and we need a ruling on 8 some objections by defense counsel, but that 9 page is not part of that problem. 10 THE COURT: All right, understood, and 11 Ms. Saltz? 12 MS. SALTZ: I guess I'm a little confused. 13 14 That's not part of the opening then, that page? THE COURT: That page is, but the pages that 15 involve instructions, involve disputes are not 16 part of the opening. 17 MS. SALTZ: I would have an objection to 18 actually reading from the transcript until the 19 transcript has been introduced into evidence and 20 the jury has heard it. I have no problem with 21 referencing what the information is contained in 22 it, but I do have an action to actually reading 23 from the dependent transcript in the opening. 24 25 THE COURT: All right. I don't see any

problem with it. I'm going to allow it, given 1 the fact that this particular page of the 2 transcript is not subject to an objection. So I 3 will allow it. And, Ms. Saltz, do you have any 4 exhibits that you intend to use during the 5 course of your openings? 6 7 MS. SALTZ: No Your Honor. THE COURT: All right. Very good. We're in 8 recess until 11:20. Oh, counsel? No more than 9 45 minutes for an opening. 10 MR. CROCENZI: Oh, my. That's not going to 11 be a problem. 12 MS. SALTZ: That won't be a problem. Thank 13 you, Your Honor. 14 (Recess taken from 11:03 to 11:25 a.m.) 15 THE COURT: Please be seated. Ladies and 16 gentlemen, as I indicated to you before our 17 recess now is the time for opening statements of 18 the parties. The party who bears the burden of 19 proof in this case, the plaintiff, will proceed 20 21 first, and therefore the court will turn to Mr. Crocenzi and invite him to address the jury. 22 Mr. Crocenzi, you may now address the jury. 23 MR. CROCENZI: Thank you, Your Honor. May 24 25 it please the court, counsel, ladies and

gentlemen of the jury. Good morning. This case is about a guy who was a hardworking, valuable employee until his employer, without any warning to him, told him to go home and shut him out of work. This guy liked to work, he wanted to work, he was able to work until his employer's false fears ended it all. This case is about our guy Mr. Shaw and how his employer, Cumberland Truck Equipment Company, violated the Americans With Disabilities act and shut him out of work.

It's February 2007, and Ricky is a warehouse worker at Cumberland Truck's location in Carlisle. Cumberland Truck sells truck parts. Ricky works in what is called Warehouse B, because there are two warehouses at the Carlisle location. Ricky had been working as a warehouse worker at Carlisle for approximately six and a half years. Ricky's primary job is to take incoming products and put it in the right place in the warehouse and keep the warehouse organized. He's on the forklift about half the day.

Now, Ricky's knees are not normal. He has arthritis, but the arthritis doesn't prevent him from working full-time. He adapts, he climbs

stairs more cautiously, he uses the cane in the morning to help him get around. You will hear that his supervisors thought he was doing a good job, they were giving him good performance evaluations, and nobody had an issue with Ricky's job productivity. That is until one member of the Cumberland Truck management team incorrectly assumed that Ricky was a danger to himself and others in the work place.

You will meet Charles Hoffman, who is the director of parts operations at Cumberland Truck and a member of that Cumberland Truck management team. Mr. Hoffman oversees the warehouse operations at Cumberland Truck. Mr. Hoffman doesn't work in the warehouse. He works in an office across the parking lot from the warehouse. In January, February of 2007 Mr. Hoffman sees Ricky walking across the parking lot from Warehouse B to the office, and Mr. Hoffman forms an impression that Ricky is struggling to make it across.

He also then forms an impression that Ricky cannot do his job as a warehouse worker and is a danger to himself and others in the warehouse.

Now, Judge Conner at the end of this case will

give you certain instructions about the law, and one of those instructions will be that the Americans With Disabilities Act, what we call the ADA, makes it illegal for an employer to prevent an employee from working based on that employer's false fears or perceptions that an employee has substantial difficulty performing a major life activity like walking or working. We believe we will prove during this trial that Cumberland Truck had false fears, false impressions about Ricky's ability to walk and work.

So what did Mr. Hoffman and the Cumberland Truck management team do? You will hear testimony from Mr. Hoffman that he then went to go see Bryan Sheldon, who is the corporate controller for Cumberland Truck and also oversees the human resources department at the company. Mr. Sheldon, without even talking to Ricky about his ability to do this job in the warehouse, just sends, agrees to send him, makes a decision to send him for a physical examination at Concentra Medical Center in Mechanicsburg. That's where Cumberland Truck sends its employees for pre-employment

physicals.

So on February 26th, 2007 Ricky shows up for work at Warehouse B just like any other day and plans to put in a full day, just like he has been for the last six and a half years. When he arrives at work he is greeted by Brenda Hoffman. Brenda Hoffman is the director of human resources at the company and she reports directly to Bryan Sheldon. She tells Ricky that he needs to go for a physical examination at Concentra immediately. Ricky thinks this is a strange request, because nobody at Cumberland Truck has told him that he is having difficulty doing his job and Ricky doesn't think he is having any problems doing his job.

well, like a good employee he goes, he takes a form with him that Brenda Hoffman gave him, and he shows up at the Mechanicsburg Concentra location. Now, at Concentra he is examined by a physician's assistant. The physician's assistant goes over some of the job duties with Ricky and then performs a short physical examination of Ricky.

Ricky takes a form with him back to

Cumberland Truck and when he arrives he's

promptly greeted by Brenda Hoffman. She tells him that in Cumberland Truck's opinion that he has failed the physical, that he is no longer able to work, and that he needs to go home and apply for short term disability benefits. Ricky is shocked. He cannot believe that he failed a physical examination for a job he has been performing for so long and so well according to his supervisors.

At the end of this case Judge Conner will also instruct you that Ricky has the burden of proof that he was able to do the essential functions of his job with or without an accommodation. So we're going to take a close look at what information Cumberland Truck provided to Concentra Medical Center in February of 2007, and we're also going to take a closer look at what happened during the physical exam in February and two other examinations that occurred in April of 2007 and September of 2007.

Throughout this trial there will, you're going to see evidence like this, a job analysis or a job description, and this is the form that Cumberland Truck provided to Concentra for them to review with Ricky when they sent him there on

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February 26th, 2007. We believe we will prove that this job analysis is inaccurate. It did not match all of the job duties and the actual job duties that Ricky was performing on a day-to-day basis. You will hear testimony that this job analysis was developed by a few members of the Cumberland Truck management team. They did not ask Ricky for any input. They did not ask any warehouse worker for input. They did not even ask the supervisor of the warehouse for any input in developing this form, and this is the only information that Cumberland Truck provided to the medical providers at Concentra. we believe that this is frankly bogus and doesn't match anything that Ricky did at the job in an accurate fashion.

exams? We will prove that Cumberland Truck didn't provide any type of weights or representative materials to Concentra so they could have Ricky lift them. He didn't lift anything during that exam. He didn't carry anything during that examination. The physicians at Cumberland Truck -- or Concentra didn't send him for what's called a functional

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capacity evaluation to measure his physical capabilities. Again they were only looking at a job analysis form that we believe does not accurately and does not match Ricky's actual job duties on a day-to-day basis. We're also going to show you this exhibit during this trial. should have moved that before I put it on. All right. There we go, sorry about that. This is Ricky's last performance evaluation. Mr. Kline, who was Ricky's direct supervisor in the warehouse, completed and reviewed the application with Ricky on January 10th, 2007. You will see that Mr. Kline gave Ricky good or very good marks in all eleven categories. the productivity category, which is supposed to evaluate an employee's volume of work efficiently in a specified period of time, Mr. Kline says, "Gets done what he physically can," but if you notice he puts down a score of 79, which is at the top end of the good category, and there is nothing in this job

Now, tragically Mr. Kline died last year,

Ricky is having any physical problems performing

his job as a warehouse worker in Warehouse B.

performance evaluation which indicates that

but before he passed away we were able to take his testimony under oath at a deposition at my office on January 12th, 2010, and we're going to be reading this deposition transcript into the record for you at some point during this trial. So after Brenda Hoffman tells Ricky that he's no longer able to work at Cumberland Truck, that he needs to apply for short term disability benefits, Ricky goes home the next day and takes a look at the paperwork that Mrs. Hoffman gave to him.

He thinks about his options, and Ricky is a hard worker. He knows he can do this job just like he has been for the last six and a half years. He declines to take the short term disability benefits. So what does Ricky do? Ricky will tell you that the next day he shows up for work at Warehouse B just like any other day. The guy wants to work. He likes working at Cumberland Truck. He's able to work at Cumberland Truck. He works there for about an hour and a half until the Cumberland Truck management team tells him to go home once again.

He hasn't been back to work at Cumberland Truck since. Ricky is very frustrated at this

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He knows he can do this job. He knows point. that he just needs to get the accurate information to Concentra. So he fires off a letter to Cumberland Truck Equipment Company, and you're going to see a copy of that letter during the course of this trial, and in that letter Ricky tells Cumberland Truck that look, just have this Cumberland Truck job analysis form match my actual job duties. Cumberland Truck refuses to do it. This is what the law calls a request for a reasonable accommodation. Cumberland Truck refuses. They tell him he still needs to apply for that short term disability benefit because that's the only money he's going to get from them. He's not going to be able to earn a paycheck because he's not working. Ricky will tell you that he steadfastly refused to apply for that short term disability benefits for a number of weeks, but by the, by April of 2007 Ricky, without a paycheck, is having his bills pile up on him, and he needs to do something. So Ricky will tell you that he really had no choice at that point because Cumberland Truck was shutting him out, so he

applied for the short term disability benefit.

He first goes back to Concentra thinking they'll fill out the physician part of the form for him, but they refuse and say no, we're not going to do it. So Ricky will tell you that he went to see his orthopaedic physician, Dr. Oplinger, at Appalachian Orthopaedics. Dr. Oplinger had been treating Ricky for his knee condition for a few months. Ricky sends the form to Dr. Oplinger with a letter explaining his situation and asking Dr. Oplinger, "Can you fill out this form for me? I'd appreciate it."

Dr. Oplinger up until this point had not disabled Ricky from work. He had not placed any restrictions on him. But when Dr. Oplinger gets the form, he fills it out for Ricky indicating that Ricky is capable of performing sedentary work or sit down work, and Ricky qualifies and receives the short term disability benefit.

Because Ricky is still not permitted to go back to work for Cumberland Truck Ricky decides well, better look for work some place else.

So he tries. Applies for a few jobs, he goes back to the employment agencies where he had worked through prior to landing his job at

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Cumberland Truck. He's not offered any employment. There's nothing available for him, and Ricky will tell you that it's tough for a 55 Year Old Army grunt to find a job in this tough economy. The short term disability benefits were going to end in a year. Ricky will testify that toward the end of that year he was once again facing financial distress. So he once again analyzes his options. He had gone to a physical exam at Concentra in April of 2007 and once again in September of 2007, but because Cumberland Truck only said this is what you have to look at, doctors and nothing else, it was a foregone conclusion that Ricky wasn't going to pass that physical and he wasn't going to be permitted to work at Cumberland Truck. were a foregone conclusion.

Ricky decides that he needs to apply for social security disability benefits from the federal government. He completes the application and some questionnaires, submits the claim, and the federal government grants it.

Now, Cumberland Truck will argue that when Ricky applied for social security disability that his damages in this case should be cut off at that

point because he was, he claims that he was unable to work, but we're going to take a look at the social security disability application and paperwork, and nowhere on there does Ricky say, "I'm totally disabled, I can't work at all," and the judge, Judge Conner will instruct you at the end of the case that Ricky is able to receive social security disability benefits and also recover money in this lawsuit so long as Ricky is able to explain his representations or comments to the social security disability administration.

Again we will show that there is no conflict and that Ricky never indicated to them that he was unable to work in any capacity. Ricky served our country faithfully for 21 years as an infantry man in the Army, serving both stateside and overseas. When he retired from the Army he settled in Carlisle. He bounced around for, with a few temporary jobs or through temporary agencies until he landed this job at Cumberland Truck. It was a great fit for Ricky. He was good at it. He liked to work there. He wanted to work there. He was able to work there.

retired.

Ricky hasn't lived an extravagant
lifestyle, but he carved out a good life for
himself after he retired from the Army, a life
that included working at Cumberland Truck, a
part of his life at Cumberland Truck snuffed
out. My co-counsel Pete Russo, who you met
earlier during voir dire, will be back up at the
end of this trial during closing arguments and
he will ask you to return a verdict for Ricky.
Thanks again for your time and your attention.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Crocenzi.

Ms. Saltz, you may address the jury.

MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor. Ladies and gentlemen, good morning. One thing, counsel don't often agree on many things, that's why we're on opposite ends of this case, but the one thing that Mr. Crocenzi and I will agree on, and that is that Ricky Shaw is a good worker. He's a hard worker. Cumberland liked Ricky Shaw. He was a knowledgeable employee. He did a great job. Also I should take this moment to thank him for the service on behalf of Cumberland and myself that he gave to his country. Honest guy. Hardworking guy. Good guy. Cumberland wanted

Ricky Shaw as an employee.

In fact, let's take this story back to when Ricky first came to Cumberland and he was offered a job as a warehouse worker. It's a heavy truck parts warehouse, and you're going to hear testimony of what goes on in that warehouse. The carrying, the lifting, the climbing, the bending, the squatting, and when he came to Cumberland his employment was conditioned on a physical, and he took that physical and the physical came back and it showed that he had no depth perception in the left eye.

When that information was given to Brenda
Hoffman, because his employment was contingent
on that physical she said it's not part of the
responsibilities or duties, we want to hire this
employee, and they hired Ricky Shaw. Soon after
Ricky started working in the warehouse he had an
accident, a work accident. He had to go out on
medical leave. When he returned from medical
leave released by the physician the company
worked with him to get him to where he needed to
be back to full duty again.

This is back in about 2000, and Cumberland

Truck had benefits that they gave to their employees. They have benefits that are required by law, which is something you may or may not have heard of, the Family Medical Leave Act, which protects the employee's job when they're taking care of someone, a family member that may be ill or having an illness themselves. They also offer their employees disability benefits, again in the event of something happens that they have some sort of income.

Well, sadly in 2005 Ricky had, his wife was ill and Brenda Hoffman had given him the form for the Family Medical Leave Act in the event he needed to take care of her. So these were not new forms that he had not seen before. This is something the company has offered and has to offer according to law, and also the disability benefits they choose to offer their employees. Ricky Shaw worked in the warehouse, as we said a knowledgeable, hard worker.

Never did he tell anyone in 2006, 2007, that he had any kind of medical condition.

Never told management that he needed any kind of accommodation. He just kept on doing his job.

At certain different points in the very first

period at the end of 2006 you will hear from the 1 evidence, and early 2007, he was observed by 2 different managers on different occasions, slow 3 reflexes, looking like he was struggling. 4 Mr. Hoffman we will hear from, his window sits, 5 faces the parking lot, and you have the 6 7 warehouse to your right about eighty feet distance, and then you have the main building. 8 About half a dozen times he saw Mr. Shaw 9 struggling to walk across eighty feet. 10 It was difficult for him, and that's what 11 he observed. He didn't have any perception, he 12 didn't know anything about his medical 13 14 condition. In fact, none of the managers did. Ricky never revealed anything about, you know, 15 if he was having an issue with his knees or 16 anything else, asking for any type of 17 accommodation, but he was observed struggling, 18 observed struggling walking across that parking 19 lot. 20 Finally by the sixth time Mr. Hoffman spoke 21 to Mr. Whitmire, who you will hear from, and 22 they went to Mr. Sullivan concerned. Concerned 23 for Mr. Shaw. Now, because usually employees 24 will come and say hey, I'm having a difficulty 25

here, a medical issue or whatever, I need a little accommodation or this is what's going on, but Mr. Shaw never did, and they were confronted with a situation what do we do with an employee that is liked, is respected, is a hard worker, but apparently now just by observation they didn't know anything other than what they saw was struggling to walk across eighty feet of a parking lot, coming into a building and sitting down, sitting on a forklift when asked to get products and saying someone else can get that product.

Cumberland Truck is in the business of heavy truck parts. They're not medical professionals. They didn't know what was happening, but what they had was Mr. Shaw's best interests in mind. They wanted to know is he okay, and also considering the fact that he's dealing with heavy truck parts they had to be concerned about their other employees as well. So not knowing what was going on, only seeing that he was struggling to walk, after advice from counsel, after sitting in meetings and talking and discussing what would be the best thing to do

for him, they decided they would let a medical doctor make the determination, and the job description that Mr. Crocenzi talked about has two parts it, as most job descriptions do, especially when you're dealing with warehouse work. You have the written out duties of a job description, and then you have the physical requirements of a job description.

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Now, there will be testimony from Mr. Shaw that he did not want the physical duties of that job description changed. When he said he wanted that job description to match, he wanted the things that he had become more in terms of doing as far as the product itself, but not the physical. In fact, Mr. Shaw himself will testify that, you know, he was able to pick up 140 pounds, 120 pounds. So the job description had a central component to it, and that was based on management who worked in the warehouse knowing what the physical requirements are of that job, and you will hear about them, but it was essentially lifting up to seventy pounds frequently, as with any warehouse, climbing, climbing portable stairs, climbing steps, lifting, bending, squatting, walking, standing,

eight hours a day.

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So they sent Mr. Shaw to Concentra and he was examined by Dr. Walker, who went through the physical requirements of the job description and found that Mr. Shaw at that point, February 26th, 2007 was not able to do the essential duties of his job. He couldn't squat. difficulty bending, climbing, he couldn't lift, he couldn't carry, standing, walking. They provided that, Dr. Walker provided that information to Brenda Hoffman, at which point Ms. Hoffman told Mr. Shaw he would have to go out on a medical leave of absence, and that was based on what a medical doctor, after examining him, determined, at which point Mr. Shaw was given the forms for Family Medical Leave Act for disability benefits.

These were benefits offered to him by the company. No nobody could force him to take the benefits. It was his choice. They were offered, the paperwork was offered to him. They wanted Mr. Shaw to come back. You will hear, you will see a lot of the information has been documented in letters, both letters that Mr. Shaw wrote to Cumberland and letters that

Ms. Hoffman wrote to Mr. Shaw, and in every
letter written to Mr. Shaw the company wrote,
"When your condition improves, come back."
Mr. Shaw's own doctor, Dr. Oplinger, who you
will see a video of, we're taking his testimony
tomorrow and we'll present it by video, filled
out a form in which he said that Mr. Shaw could
not stand, could not walk, could not carry,
could not lift. All he could do is sit down
work. Sedentary. His own doctor.

Mr. Shaw went back again for a second
independent exam in April. Again that exam

Mr. Shaw went back again for a second independent exam in April. Again that exam came back that he was unable to do the essential duties, official duties of that job. He went back again in September, and again an independent doctor said he just can't do it. He can't stand for more than, you know, five minute intervals, he can't walk, you know, more than thirty minute intervals. These are medical doctors that made this decision.

Now, there's also been testimony that

Mr. Shaw had an opportunity to have a knee

replacement in April of `07 and chose to delay

that until `09 that could have brought him back

to work sooner. At that point with him having

not been fit for duty they, Cumberland, kept his job open. They continued to keep his job open for almost seven months. The other employees in the warehouse worked overtime to meet his duties so that they were hoping that his condition would improve and he could come back to work.

Now, Mr. Shaw also did apply for social security benefits, and in that form in his own writing, both handwritten and typewritten, he admitted that he lost his job because of his bad knees and bad back that prevented him from being able to work per OSHA requirements. He knew that.

Even in his letter to Cumberland early on was the first time he disclosed what his medical condition was and that he could never pass that physical. Now, as far as accommodation goes, Mr. Shaw met with Mr. Sheldon at one point. The two of them met and they talked, and Mr. Sheldon talked about possibly doing something else other than the warehouse, and Mr. Shaw did not want to hear of this. He wanted his job in the warehouse. That's the job he wanted. That's the job he wanted to go back to, even though the doctors said he couldn't do that job. They talked about the possibility, Mr. Sheldon then

offered to him take this job, just take the job description to your doctor, have your doctor tell Dr. Walker pick another doctor to have him examined. He didn't do that. Mr. Shaw didn't go to his doctor, who was an orthopaedic surgeon, and say, "Hey, they're saying I can't do this. What do you think, Dr. Oplinger? Can I do this job?" He didn't come back with that.

The reason? Because Dr. Oplinger in April

The reason? Because Dr. Oplinger in April of `O7 said he can't do that job. Right now physically he could not meet those requirements. The job was held open for seven months. At the end of that seven months Cumberland at that point terminated Mr. Shaw's employment, and in the letter that they sent him terminating his employment they said to him, "When your condition improves, any time your condition improves, reapply. Come back to us. We want you to come back as an employee," and he never did.

Even after Mr. Shaw had knee replacement surgery he never did come back. There was no accommodation other than having other people do Mr. Shaw's job, and he didn't want to do a sit down job. He wanted to just work in the

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warehouse, but to work in that warehouse based on his not being able to, and you will hear the testimony, to meet those physical requirements, it could have endangered Mr. Shaw and it could have endangered another employee. It was almost a powder keg to be waiting for that moment, and that is what this case is all about, a hardworking employee who management observed, just observed, didn't know what the condition was, having difficulty walking. Sent him for a medical exam to discover that he wasn't fit for duty. Wanted him to come back time, and time and time again and even offered him to come back at any time that his condition improved, and that's the testimony of this case. Thank you. THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much, Ms. Saltz. Ladies and gentlemen, we will take our lunch break at this time. We'll break for an hour and fifteen minutes. Please try to return at approximately ten after 1:00, and we'll reconvene at 1:15 for the first witness in the case. Please recall all of my earlier instructions and refrain from any conversations among yourselves or with anyone else about what you have seen and heard so far. As I said to

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you earlier you will have that opportunity, but
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     not until the time of final deliberation. We're
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     in lunch recess until 1:15. Ms. McKinney, you
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     may escort the jury.
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          (Lunch recess from 11:58 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.)
5
          THE COURT: Please be seated. Mr. Crocenzi,
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7
     would you call your first witness?
          MR. CROCENZI: Yes. Charles Hoffman.
8
          THE COURT: All right. Mr. Hoffman, please
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     step forward.
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          MR. CROCENZI: Your Honor, I noticed that
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     there are other prospective Cumberland Truck
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     witnesses in the gallery and I would --
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          THE COURT: You request sequestration?
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          MR. CROCENZI: Yes.
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          THE COURT: Yes, Ms. Saltz, if you would
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     please ask the other witnesses to remain seated
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     outside. Thanks very much.
18
          (Charles Hoffman was called to testify and
19
     was sworn by the courtroom deputy.)
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          COURTROOM DEPUTY: Please be seated and
2.1
     state your full name for the record.
22
          THE WITNESS: Charles J. Hoffman.
2.3
          MR. CROCENZI:
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       Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Hoffman.
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A. Hi. 1 MS. SALTZ: Your Honor, may I ask if 2 Mr. Crocenzi could just -- he's right in my line 3 of vision of the witness. Thank you. 4 THE COURT: Ms. Saltz, please feel free to 5 move around the courtroom to the extent you need 6 7 to. MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor. 8 Q. Mr. Hoffman, are you employed with 9 Cumberland Truck Equipment Company? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. How long have you worked for Cumberland 12 Truck? 13 A. Ive worked for them two times actually. 14 Since 1998 recently. 15 Q. What was your position with the company in 16 2007? 17 A. I was director of parts operations. 18 Q. How long had you -- or had you held that 19 position by 2007? 20 A. How long? 21 Q. How long by that point? 22 A. Ten years. 23 Q. Now, what is the business of Cumberland 24 25 Truck Equipment Company?

- A. Cumberland Truck is, we're a wholesale 1 distributor of truck parts, you know, the big 2 Class A trucks, and we have ten locations in 3 Pennsylvania and we were a wholesale 4 distributor, so we purchased from the 5 manufacturer and then we distribute that product 6 7 to garages and fleets and things like that. Q. You primarily work at the Carlisle 8 location, is that right? 9 A. That's where my office is, yes. 10 Q. Was that your home office in 2007? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. You directly oversee the warehouse 13 operations for Cumberland Truck, including the 14 warehouses at the Carlisle location? 15 A. I'm responsible for all the warehouse 16 operations, yes. 17 Q. You do not work in the warehouses, is that 18 correct? 19 A. Not on a daily basis, no. 20 21 Q. Now, in your position as director of parts operation you reported directly to the owners of 22 Cumberland Truck, is that correct? 2.3 A. Yes. 24 25 Q. And you had people that reported to you at
 - U.S. District Court, Middle District of PA

that time in the organization, is that correct? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Did Mr. Kline report directly to you? 3 A. No. He actually reported to Pat Whitmire. 4 Q. What was Mr. Whitmire's position in 2007? 5 A. He was the parts and logistics manager for 6 7 the Carlisle location, which is one of our ten locations. 8 Q. How many warehouses were there at the 9 Carlisle location in 2007? 10 11 A. Two. Q. Did you call them Warehouse A and 12 Warehouse B? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Warehouse B was the larger of the two 15 warehouses, is that correct? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. And we've also mentioned Bryan Sheldon 18 earlier during opening statements. Mr. Sheldon 19 is the corporate controller, is that right? 20 2.1 A. Yes. Q. He was the corporate controller back in 22 `07, too? 23 A. Yes, did Mr. Sheldon. 24 25 Q. Did Mr. Sheldon report directly to the

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owners like yourself?
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       A. Yes.
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       Q. Was there a management team at the Carlisle
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     location which consisted of you, Mr. Sheldon,
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     Mr. Whitmire, and Brenda Hoffman?
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       A. I'm not sure. Not a team there, not in the
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7
     way that we like meet every week or anything
     like that, no. That wasn't a team.
8
       Q. But those were the management personnel at
9
     the Carlisle location?
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       A. Some of the management personnel, yes.
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       Q. Mrs. Hoffman was the director of human
12
     resources --
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       A. Yes.
14
       O. -- in `07?
15
       A. Yes.
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       Q. Is she related to you at all?
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       A. No. I get that a lot though, right.
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       Q. All right. You're familiar with Ricky
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     Shaw, is that correct?
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       A. Yes.
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       Q. And Ricky Shaw worked in Warehouse B at
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     Carlisle, is that correct?
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       A. That's correct.
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25
       Q. And by 2007 Ricky had been working at the
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warehouse for about six, six and a half years, 1 is that right? 2 A. Yes, sounds about right. 3 Q. Mr. Kline worked in the warehouse with 4 Mr. Shaw on a daily basis, is that right? 5 A. Yes. 6 7 Q. Now, your office was not located in the warehouse, it was on a different part of the 8 property of Carlisle, is that right? 9 A. That's correct, yes. That was in the other 10 building. 11 Q. And there is a parking lot that separated 12 your office from Warehouse B, is that right? 13 A. That's right. 14 Q. Now, isn't it true that you would also 15 visit Warehouse B a couple of times a month, a 16 couple of times a month to check on things or 17 find something? 18 A. More than that, but yes, regularly. 19 THE COURT: I hate to interrupt, but could 20 you maybe give us a handle on where Warehouse A 21 was in relation to your office and Warehouse B, 22 or am I jumping ahead? 23 MR. CROCENZI: No, that's all right. We'll 24 25 take it here, Your Honor.

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THE WITNESS: They were right next to each
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     other. Warehouse A had our corporate offices
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     and service department and some other things all
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     in one building, and then there was a sixty or
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     seventy foot long parking lot and then there's
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     another bigger warehouse where Ricky worked. My
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     office was on the same side as Warehouse B, so
     if I looked out my window I would be looking at
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     the other warehouse. Is that kind of what
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     you're asking for?
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          THE COURT: What I'm wondering is --
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          THE WITNESS: I can draw it for you or
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     something.
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          THE COURT: -- did you work in Warehouse A?
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          THE WITNESS: No, I worked in the corporate
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     office.
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          THE COURT: Which is part of -- but
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     I thought --
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          THE WITNESS: It's in the same building as
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     Warehouse A.
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          THE COURT: Okay. All right.
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          THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's all the same
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     building, yes.
23
          THE COURT: That's what I thought. Okay.
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25
          BY MR. CROCENZI:
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Q. When you came over to Warehouse B you were 1 only there for short periods of time? Five, ten 2 minutes? 3 A. Yeah, a few minutes at a time. 4 Q. Every time that you came over to Warehouse 5 B you wouldn't see Ricky, right? 6 7 A. No. Q. There would be times that you would come 8 over and he was doing something and you didn't 9 see him? 10 A. That's true. 11 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you what is marked 12 as Plaintiff's Exhibit 9. 13 (Brief pause.) 14 Q. This is titled "Job Analysis, Cumberland 15 Truck Equipment Company." Do you see that, 16 Mr. Hoffman? 17 18 A. Yes. Q. And you provided some input for this job 19 analysis form, is that right? 20 A. That's correct. 2.1 Q. And I believe you had provided information 22 on the tools, equipment utilized for the 23 position of warehouse workers, is that right? 24 A. That's correct. 25

Q. You also provided information regarding the 1 duties block, which is on page 1, is that right? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. You didn't have any input regarding the 4 physical requirements which are listed at the 5 bottom of page 1 and through page 2, is that 6 7 right? A. No. 8 Q. No, you didn't have any input or --9 A. No, I didn't outline this document or 10 anything if that's what you're asking. 11 Q. That's what I'm asking. Regarding the 12 physical requirements. 13 A. No. 14 Q. Okay. When you provided some input on the 15 tools equipment utilized and the duties, did you 16 solicit any input from Ricky Shaw? 17 A. No. 18 Q. I'm going to turn your attention now to 19 January, February 2007. Did you see Ricky 20 21 walking across that parking lot from Warehouse B to your office building? 22 A. From time to time, yes. 23 Q. You saw him approximately six times, is 24 25 that right?

A. Well, I saw him many more times than that, 1 but a few times where I noticed that he was 2 taking a long time to come across the parking 3 lot. 4 Q. And is it your recollection that Ricky was 5 walking slow and with a limp? Is that what you 6 recall? 7 A. He had a limp that I remember, yes, and he 8 was walking slow, yes. 9 Q. He wasn't using a cane, was he? 10 A. Not that I remember, no. 11 Q. And you didn't notice him taking any 12 breaks, did you? 13 A. He would stop every once in a while coming 14 across the parking lot. 15 Q. It was your impression that he was 16 struggling to make it across, is that right? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Now, after you saw this did you then meet 19 with Pat Whitmire and Bryan Sheldon? 20 A. Well, not initially I did not. I mean, 21 every once in a while we all have problems, so 22 it's, you know, the first time I saw him I 23 didn't go asking questions. 24 25 Q. Okay, but in February of 2007 did you then

meet with Mr. Whitmire and Mr. Sheldon? 1 A. I believe so, yes. 2 Q. Did you express your impression that Ricky 3 was struggling to make it across that parking 4 lot? 5 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Didn't you also tell them that you believed Ricky was a danger to himself and others working 8 in the warehouse? 9 A. I didn't say that I believed he was. Ι 10 said I wanted to make sure that he was not. 11 Q. You had concerns that Ricky didn't have 12 fast reflexes --13 A. That's correct. 14 Q. -- and therefore wasn't, might be a danger 15 to others or himself in the warehouse, is that 16 right? 17 A. That's correct. 18 Q. Do you remember appearing at my office for 19 your deposition, Mr. Hoffman? 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Q. And that was held on January 11th, 2010? 22 A. Roughly, yes. 23 Q. At the beginning of the deposition you were 24 25 asked to give an oath to tell the truth at that

deposition, is that right? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. We were there for about an hour, I was 3 asking you some questions about what you knew 4 about this case? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. And do you remember me asking you questions 7 that you were concerned whether Ricky was a 8 Danger to himself and others in the warehouse? 9 A. Not specifically. 10 Q. Let me refer you to page 15, line 17, and I 11 asked you this question, "Did you ever make a 12 comment to Mr. Sheldon or Mr. Whitmire that you 13 were concerned that Ricky was a danger to 14 himself or to others in the warehouse?" 15 you answered, "I believe that I did." 16 A. Okay. 17 Q. So you did believe that Ricky was a danger 18 to himself and others based on your impression 19 of him? 20 21 A. Well, I guess if that's what I said then I must have said that to you, yes. 22 Q. Did you ever speak with Ricky about your 23 impressions of him? 24 25 A. Not specifically, no.

Q. Did you ever speak with Tim Kline after 1 your meeting with Mr. Whitmire and Mr. Sheldon 2 about your impressions of Ricky Shaw? 3 A. I either did before or after I talked to 4 5 Pat. Q. Again I'm referencing back to your 6 7 deposition testimony on January 11th, 2010, and I asked you that same question during that 8 deposition. 9 MS. SALTZ: Objection, Your Honor. 10 MR. CROCENZI: Page 11, line 21. 11 THE COURT: Hold on one second. 12 MS. SALTZ: Your Honor, if counsel is going 13 to be using the deposition, the witness does not 14 have a copy of that deposition to reference what 15 the question and answer is. 16 MR. CROCENZI: I'll be glad to show it to 17 him. 18 THE COURT: All right. Very good. 19 BY MR. CROCENZI: 20 Q. Mr. Hoffman, I'm going to show you page 11 21 from your transcript from your deposition, and 22 I'm referencing line 21. 2.3 A. Okay. 24 25 Q. If you could read that?

(Brief pause.) 1 A. Okay. 2 Q. Okay? 3 A. Uh-huh. 4 Q. And I asked you, "Did you ever speak with 5 his immediate supervisor Tim Kline about Ricky 6 Shaw taking a long time to walk from the 7 warehouse to the office and back?" And you 8 answered, "No." 9 A. Right. 10 Q. Okay. Mr. Hoffman, there was no incident 11 that happened that was a danger to Ricky or 12 others in the warehouse while he was employed at 13 Cumberland Truck, isn't that true? 14 A. Not that I'm aware of no. 15 Q. Okay. Prior to your meeting with 16 Mr. Whitmire and Mr. Sheldon in February of 2007 17 you had received no complaints from any employee 18 about Ricky's productivity in the warehouse? 19 A. No. 20 Q. And you didn't receive any complaints about 21 him allegedly using a cane to operate a 22 forklift? 23 A. No. 24 25 Q. Never heard that, is that true? You never

heard that? 1 A. No, I never heard that. 2 Q. And you never had any complaints about his 3 productivity? 4 A. No. 5 Q. And prior to this meeting with Whitmire and 6 7 Sheldon you received no complaints from any employee about Ricky having any difficulty 8 lifting, is that right? 9 A. Not that I recall. 10 Q. Okay, and you never had any complaints 11 about Ricky having difficulty carrying? 12 A. No, not that I recall. 13 Q. Never had any complaints about Ricky having 14 difficulty standing for long periods of time? 15 A. Not that I remember, no. 16 Q. Never received any complaints about Ricky 17 having difficulty bending? 18 A. Not that I remember, no. 19 Q. You didn't have any complaints from any 20 21 employee about Ricky having difficulty squatting? 22 A. Not that I remember, no. 23 MR. CROCENZI: Thank you. That's all I 24 25 have.

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THE COURT: Ms. Saltz?
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          MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
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          (Brief pause.)
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          CROSS EXAMINATION BY MS. SALTZ:
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       Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Hoffman.
5
       A. Hello.
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       Q. Mr. Hoffman, would you turn to Exhibit 9?
     Is that in front of you?
8
       A. Yes.
9
       Q. Would you take a look at that, please, and
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     counsel was asking questions about this job
11
     analysis.
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       A. Yes.
       Q. Would you take a look at the section marked
14
     "Physical Requirements"?
15
       A. Okay.
16
       Q. And I believe it goes on for two pages.
17
       A. Yes.
18
       Q. Okay, would you take a look at all those
19
     sections, please?
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21
       A. Okay.
       Q. Is there anything inaccurate as to what the
22
     requirements are of a warehouse worker in terms
23
     of the physical requirements?
24
25
          (Brief pause.)
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MR. CROCENZI: Objection, Your Honor. There 1 hasn't been any foundation laid that Mr. Hoffman 2 knows about the specific requirements of a 3 warehouse worker at Carlisle Warehouse B. He 4 testified he doesn't work in the warehouse. 5 Не also testified he didn't have any input in 6 7 developing that part of the job analysis. THE COURT: All right. 8 Q. I can clarify that, Your Honor. 9 Mr. Hoffman, did you work in the warehouse at 10 any point? 11 A. Oh, yes. 12 Q. How long did you work in the warehouse? 13 A. Well, I've been in the industry since 1976. 14 I've held warehouse puller positions, forklift 15 driver, delivery driver, warehouse manager, just 16 about -- I mean, that's why I'm director of 17 operations. I've done everything in the 18 operations of our kind of business. 19 O. And was that for Cumberland? 20 21 A. At sometimes, yes. Q. Could you just describe for the jury what 22 goes on in Warehouse B based on your own 23 experience and knowledge of that job? 24 25 A. Well, in Warehouse B, and in Warehouse A

both, product comes from, again from the manufacturer. We'll get a truckload of brake drums or mixed product, and the warehouse job requires that that product gets unloaded from the truck. Usually it's run down an aisle of the warehouse and the product is checked in and verified that what we got billed for is what we actually received.

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At that point what we'll do is we'll have designated locations for all that product, and it may go into the other warehouse, it might stay in the warehouse it's received at, which is usually Warehouse B, and the product is put away in those locations. From that point forward we get orders from our other branches for that same kind of product and we have to fill those orders for the branches. So sometimes we'll be receiving product and putting it away. Sometimes we'll be pulling product for our other branches or for other customers directly from that branch, and that stuff, that product will then be put on pallets or in crates or bins, depending on what size it is, and then it will be sorted for each particular branch that it's going to that night or the next day or whatever,

and then labeled and shipped out. 1 Q. You mentioned brake drums. 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. How much do brake drums weigh 4 approximately? 5 A. Average is 110 pounds. 6 7 Q. What other kind of product -- I mean, you referred to it as product and for those of us 8 that don't know what the kind of products 9 10 that --A. Everything from lamps or light bulbs that 11 weigh practically nothing to clutches that weigh 12 two hundred pounds and cylinder heads that weigh 13 three or four hundred pounds. 14 Q. Now, with regard to -- you testified that 15 you did not complete this, you didn't create 16 this job analysis form. 17 A. That's correct. 18 Q. Is it accurate though where it states that 19 lifting is up to seventy pounds frequently? 20 2.1 A. Yes. Q. So you would in the course of the day as a 22 warehouse worker you would have to lift about 23 seventy pounds? 24 25 A. Regularly, yes.

- Q. What about occasionally up to 150 pounds?
- A. Yes. Preferably with help, but yes.
- Q. So there would always be two people that you would prefer having lift --
 - A. Right.

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- Q. Over what weight, sir? What would be like the weight where you would want to see two people lifting?
- A. Well, any -- any, like a brake drum order, usually what we'll require everyone to do is load it, you don't want to go any more than two or three high because obviously you lift them up high it's pretty tough on you. So if you were doing a clutch or you were doing a lot of brake drums we usually would ask that you get help to do that. A supervisor wouldn't stand over a warehouse worker and make sure that you did that, but it's recommended.
- Q. And then as far as carrying, you would have to carry that product from one location to another?
- A. Yeah. Again, you know, if you were pulling a brake drum order for a branch you're going to have to take brake drums off of one pallet, put them on another pallet. If a customer comes in

and needs product directly you may have to pick 1 that brake drum up and put it in the back of 2 their pickup truck or something like that. 3 Q. And also the same kind of weight 4 requirement for carrying up to seventy pounds 5 frequently? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. Occasionally up to 150 pounds? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. A lot of sitting in that job? 10 11 A. No. Q. How long are you on your feet usually? 12 A. Oh, pretty much the whole eight hours. 13 mean, you'll occasionally be on the forklift. 14 Most often you're on a forklift when a truck of, 15 again a truckload of drums or a truckload comes 16 in, one of the warehouse operators will jump on 17 a forklift and unload that truck, and if we're 18 loading a truck for one of our branches the same 19 thing, they'll get on a forklift and they'll 20 load the truck up. 21 Q. Now, is anyone in the warehouse designated 22 as the forklift driver? 23 A. No. 24 25 Q. So that anybody working in the warehouse,

and that's Warehouse B, would have to know how 1 to operate a forklift? 2 A. Everyone has to be forklift certified and 3 everyone has to drive forklifts, yes. 4 Q. And approximately what percentage of the 5 time would someone be using a forklift in that 6 warehouse during just a day, an eight hour day? 7 A. Probably 20 percent. 8 Q. And the rest of the time would be walking, 9 standing? 10 A. Yeah, pushing carts or pallet jack or 11 moving stuff up, helping, you know, off of one 12 skid, putting it on another, checking product 13 in, putting, stacking products on a shelf, and 14 just warehouse work. 15 Q. Are there stairs in that warehouse? 16 17 A. Yes. Q. How many sets of stairs? One? Two? 18 19 A. Two. Q. Is there also any kind -- when you say, I 20 envision when you say putting stuff on 21 shelves --22 A. Yes. 23 Q. -- is there a need for like a portable 24 25 ladder or a staircase to use?

There's probably five portable A. Yes. 1 ladders, rolling ladders in the warehouse. 2 Q. And that requires climbing obviously? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Now, with regard to lifting, is there any 5 need for bending or squatting to do that? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. Is there a proper mechanism by which one 8 lifts products? 9 A. Well, yes. I mean again, you know, we try 10 to make sure that all the warehouse workers know 11 proper lifting techniques. When you're lifting 12 a brake drum or something like that you should 13 squat down and lift with your legs, not your 14 back. You know, typical standard ways to lift 15 product, or anything. 16 Q. Now, you testified with regard to having 17 observed Mr. Shaw walking across that parking 18 How many times approximately did you see 19 him before you said something? 20 A. Probably five or six times. 2.1 Q. And what was it that finally made you 22 decide that you needed to talk to someone? 23 A. Well, again, you know, I'm in that office 24 25 regularly and I would observe Ricky coming

across and sometimes it would take him ten or fifteen minutes to walk that eighty feet, and the other times I also noticed that when I was in the warehouse I would occasionally witness Ricky on a forklift and he was hesitant to do anything else in my opinion, you know, he wanted to stay on the forklift, which is not, we do everything in the warehouse, you know, it's not just, you know, we don't have specific forklift operators, and he basically needed to pull orders and not use a forklift. So that's when I said something.

- Q. What dangers were you concerned about?
- A. Well, the biggest thing I didn't want Ricky to get hurt lifting or, you know, squatting or doing anything that you normally have to do in the warehouse. Secondly I was worried about when he was on the forklift, which is what he was doing most of the time, having to take your foot off the brake or off the gas and put it on the brake quickly. I mean we have a lot of people, including myself, walking in and out of the warehouse, going down different aisles. If you come around that corner and there's someone standing there, you got to take your foot off

the gas and put it on the brake pretty quick, 1 and I was concerned that Ricky would have a 2 problem doing that. 3 Q. Now, when you did go, who did you go to 4 first after -- when you finally made the 5 decision that you needed to say something who 6 7 did you go to? A. I believe it was Pat. I'm pretty sure I 8 talked to Pat Whitmire first because Pat is 9 responsible for daily operations of both of the 10 warehouses, that we oversaw both warehouses. 11 Tim Kline worked directly for him, and I 12 interact with Pat more because he's in the 13 same building as I am and not in Warehouse B. 14 I believe I talked to him first. 15 Q. And what did you say to him, do you 16 remember? 17 A. I don't remember specifically. Something 18 to the effect that I think Ricky is having some 19 difficulty and we better find out what's going 20 2.1 on. I don't know exactly what I said. Q. And then after you spoke to Pat what did 22 you do next? 23 A. I basically talked to Pat to get his 24 25 opinion and both of us agreed that we had to

find out what was going on with Ricky, and 1 that's when we went to Bryan, because he was 2 overseeing human resources at the time, to make 3 sure that, you know, we did what we were 4 supposed to do so we went and saw Bryan. 5 Q. And when you went to see Bryan what was 6 7 vour concern at that time? A. Well, the same concerns that I expressed 8 earlier, you know, first of all whether or not 9 Ricky would hurt himself, and secondly whether 10 or not he would hurt somebody else if he was on 11 the forklift, and whether or not he could 12 actually do what needed to be done in the 13 warehouse position. 14 Q. Now, prior to going to Bryan to discuss 15 it with him, had Ricky ever come to you and 16 discussed with you any kind of medical condition 17 that he had? 18 19 A. No. Q. Did he ever come to you and ask for any 20 21 kind of accommodation to do his job? A. No. 22 Q. Did he ever indicate to you that he was 23 having any kinds of medical problems or concerns 24

about being able to do his job?

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A. No. 1 Q. Now, after you met with Bryan do you 2 remember what happened in that first meeting? 3 A. I don't specifically, no. I believe that 4 he told us that, oh, I have to have a doctor 5 evaluate him and see if he can continue to do 6 the job that he's required to do. I'm pretty 7 sure -- I mean, again I don't know the specific 8 wording of what happened, but that was the gist 9 of it from what I remember. 10 Q. And did you meet one time only or did you 11 meet several times to discuss the situation as 12 to --13 A. I believe myself I only talked to Bryan 14 once specifically about Ricky before he went to 15 the doctors. 16 Q. And did you ever find out after he went to 17 the doctors what his medical condition was? 18 A. Did I find out? 19 No. Q. And what did you learn after he went to 20 that medical exam? 2.1 A. That the evaluation that the doctor gave 22 him said that he was not --2.3 MR. CROCENZI: Objection. Hearsay. 24 25 MS. SALTZ: Well, it's again --

THE COURT: Not a party admission? 1 MS. SALTZ: Right. I just stopped to think 2 for a moment. Let me strike, thank you. 3 THE COURT: Sustained. 4 BY MS. SALTZ: 5 Q. Did someone advise you that -- how did you 6 7 come to find out if Ricky was coming back to work or not? 8 A. Either Brenda Hoffman or Bryan Sheldon told 9 me that the evaluation --10 MR. CROCENZI: Objection about what the 11 evaluation said. I think he can testify about 12 what they said about Ricky coming back to work 13 or not but not about the evaluation itself. 14 THE COURT: All right. 15 Q. Let me ask you this question. Do you even 16 know what the evaluation said? 17 18 A. I do now, yes. Q. But then, not what you know now, then did 19 you know at that time? 20 2.1 A. I did not see the evaluation, no, not at that time. 22 O. What did you know at that time? 23 A. I knew what either Bryan Sheldon or Brenda 24 25 Hoffman told me about the evaluation.

Q. Did they tell you Ricky was coming back to 1 work? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Did they tell you that Ricky failed the 4 exam? 5 6 A. Yes. O. What kind of a worker was Mr. Shaw? 7 A. Mr. Shaw was a good worker in my opinion. 8 Q. Were you sorry to have lost him? 9 A. I am, yes. You know, he did, Ricky did a 10 very good job for us. When we moved, we moved 11 one of our big locations in Johnstown a few 12 years, two or three years before that, and I had 13 to work 32 days straight, but my crews came up 14 from Carlisle to do that and Ricky was, Ricky 15 did a heck of a job then, and I was directly 16 responsible at that time. That's why I know 17 that versus, you know, later on when he was 18 working directly under Tim Kline. 19 Q. Did you want him to come back? 20 21 A. Yes. O. When Mr. Shaw went out on medical leave you 22 were aware he did go out on medical leave? 23 A. Yes. 24 25 Q. When he went out on medical leave did you

replace him? 1 A. No, not right away. 2 Q. Do you know how many months went by before 3 you replaced him? 4 A. It was five or six months. It was a long 5 time and, you know, we didn't know, I know that 6 7 I know that he was going to different doctors and trying to get things sorted out. So the job 8 was left open until we had a final disposition 9 of what his status was. 10 Q. Were you aware that he had gone to two more 11 fit for duty exams? 12 A. I wasn't specifically aware of the times 13 that he was going to different doctors, no. 14 Q. And would you have taken Ricky back? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. Would you take him back today? 17 18 A. Sure. MS. SALTZ: I have no further questions. 19 THE COURT: Anything further, Mr. Crocenzi? 20 MR. CROCENZI: Yes, Your Honor, some 21 follow-up questions. 22 REDIRECT BY MR. CROCENZI: 23 Q. Mr. Hoffman, you didn't regularly work in 24 25 Warehouse B at Carlisle, is that right?

- A. Not in my present position, no. 1 Q. Your position as director of parts 2 operations? 3 A. No. 4 Q. I think your testimony regarding the 5 working in the warehouse was at some other 6 7 location at some other time during your employment with Cumberland Truck? 8 A. That's correct. 9 Q. Mr. Kline was the supervisor who worked 10 side by side with Ricky at Warehouse B, is that 11 right? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Now, isn't it true that Ricky could have 14 been on the forklift more than the 20 percent, 15 you indicated a typical warehouse worker would 16 spend on the forklift? 17 A. Could he have been? Sure. He could have 18 been. 19 Q. Because Mr. Kline was overseeing the direct 20 operations of Warehouse B, he could have had 2.1 Ricky working on that forklift more than 20 22 percent of the time, is that right? 2.3 A. He could have. 2.4

Q. Isn't it true that a warehouse worker can

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also sit to look at paperwork? 1 A. Yes. A lot of times when a large order 2 will come in we'll usually have two warehouse 3 workers, one will be actually checking in the 4 product, the other person will be checking the 5 paperwork off, you know, or whatever. 6 7 Q. When you testified that you saw Ricky on the forklift and it was your impression he was 8 hesitant to get off the forklift --9 A. Yes. 10 Q. -- did you ever write him up, give him a 11 reprimand at all about that? 12 A. I spoke to him about the one situation, 13 14 yes. Q. Did you ever give a written reprimand? 15 A. No. 16 Q. Did you ever speak with Mr. Kline about 17 that incident with the forklift? 18 A. Not that I recall, no. 19 Q. During the time you were in the warehouse 20 this January-February time period we're talking 21 about --22 A. Uh-huh. 23 Q. -- did you see Ricky have any trouble 24 25 operating the forklift?

A. No.

- Q. It's also true that in Warehouse B warehouse workers would have carts available to carry heavy items from one location to the next?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. They also had pallet jacks?
- **A.** Yes.
 - Q. Now, the product was typically stored on a wooden pallet, is that right?
 - A. For the most part, yes, probably 70 percent of the product over there.
 - Q. Can you describe for the jury what a pallet is?
 - A. Yeah, a pallet is, it's basically a roughly four foot by four foot square wooden structure that holds heavy products. So they, you know, it would -- like you can put a forklift under it to lift it or a pallet jack, which is just a hand operated jack for lifting a pallet up and moving the product around or putting it up on a shelf or something like that.
 - Q. And a pallet jack is something that's on the ground that has forks on it that's able to get into the pallet?
 - A. Right.

Q. And you're able to use a hydraulic lift --1 A. Right. 2 Q. -- to lift the pallet off the ground? 3 A. Just enough to move it. You can't use it 4 to put product up on the shelf or anything like 5 that, yeah. 6 O. That's what a forklift is for? 7 A. That's right. 8 Q. Okay. Was there a stool in Warehouse B 9 where a person could sit and check paperwork for 10 products when they came in? 11 A. There is a stool by the receiving desk. 12 MR. CROCENZI: That's all I have, Your 13 Honor. Thank you. 14 THE COURT: The pallet jack is on wheels 15 though? 16 THE WITNESS: Yes. 17 THE COURT: You can move the pallet once 18 it's lifted in the air, you can move it --19 THE WITNESS: Right. A pallet has slots 20 underneath it and a pallet jack just two forks. 21 So when you slide it under the pallet itself the 22 two wheels in the back go into this slot. 23 when you jack it up then those wheels will push 24 25 everything up.

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THE COURT: But it's kind of bulky and hard
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     to move. Isn't it easier to move it with a
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     forklift than a pallet jack?
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          THE WITNESS: Oh, yeah. Yeah, a forklift
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     obviously has an engine and, you know, a pallet
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     jack you got to pull it or push it to make it go
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     wherever you want it to go.
          THE COURT: All right. Anything further,
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     Ms. Saltz?
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          MS. SALTZ: No, Your Honor. Thank you.
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          THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much,
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     you may step down.
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          THE WITNESS: Thank you.
          THE COURT: Your next witness, Mr. Russo?
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          MR. RUSSO: Our next witness is
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     Mr. Whitmire.
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          THE COURT: All right.
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          MS. SALTZ: Your Honor, is Mr. Hoffman
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     released at this point?
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          THE COURT: Any need for recall at this
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     time?
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          MR. CROCENZI: Not at this time, no.
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          THE COURT: Is he a possible rebuttal
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     witness? If he is then he should be excused at
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     least outside the courtroom.
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MR. CROCENZI: Yes. He could be a possible
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     rebuttal witness.
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          THE COURT: All right. Very well.
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          MR. CROCENZI: But as far as today is
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     concerned we don't see any further --
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          THE COURT: All right, you're released for
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     today, but you may be, just recognize you may be
     recalled.
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          THE WITNESS: Okay.
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          THE COURT: Thank you.
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          MR. CROCENZI: And, Your Honor, because of
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     the multiple days of the trial can we have an
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     instruction that the witnesses, since they are
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     sequestered here, wouldn't be talking about the
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     case if they go back to the office?
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          THE COURT: Well, that's really a subject
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     for examination.
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          MR. CROCENZI: Okay.
          THE COURT: You can find out if those
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     conversations have taken place.
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2.1
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you.
          THE COURT: I'm not going to prohibit them
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     from having conversations, but obviously fertile
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     ground for cross examination.
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          (John Patrick Whitmire was called to
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testify and was sworn by the courtroom deputy.) 1 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Please be seated and 2 state your full name for the record. 3 THE WITNESS: John Patrick Whitmire. 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. RUSSO: 5 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Whitmire. 6 A. Good afternoon. 7 Q. Could you tell us what your position at 8 Cumberland Truck is? 9 A. I'm the eastern regional operations 10 11 manager. Q. Have you held any other positions with 12 Cumberland Truck? 13 A. Yes. The parts manager and the parts 14 logistics manager. 15 Q. And when did you start with Cumberland 16 Truck? 17 A. February of 2002. 18 Q. Had you ever worked for Cumberland Truck 19 prior to that? 20 A. Yes, two times before that. 21 Q. And when did you first begin working with 22 Cumberland Truck? 23 A. June of 1986 I believe. 24 25 Q. And that first employment with Cumberland

Truck did you hold any other positions? 1 A. No, I was a warehouse worker. 2 Q. Okay. Was that similar to the position 3 that Ricky Shaw had? 4 A. No. We were much smaller then. 5 Q. Okay. We've come to the conclusion that 6 7 there are two warehouses, a Warehouse A and a Warehouse B at Cumberland Truck in Carlisle. 8 Is that correct? 9 A. Correct. 10 O. What's the difference between the two 11 warehouses? 12 A. Warehouse A primarily houses our small 13 parts. Warehouse B warehouses our bulk parts. 14 Q. At some point were you a supervisor of one 15 or more of those warehouses? 16 A. Yes, both. 17 O. And when was that? 18 A. 2004 I believe. 19 O. Until when? 20 A. 2011, January of this year. 21 Q. Can you describe for us the physical layout 22 of Warehouse B? 23 A. You walk in the door there's pallet racks 24 25 under a deck level no more than ten feet high,

and then we have I think there's about eight 1 aisles of racks that are twenty foot high, 2 fifteen foot high, excuse me. 3 Q. Is there a second level of racks? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. And how high is that second level of racks? 6 7 A. Second level of racks is probably ten foot. Q. So at the height of the second rack is it 8 twenty feet? 9 A. Well, it's setting on top of a deck, so 10 there's a ten foot underneath and a ten foot on 11 the top. 12 Q. Okay. Do you know Ricky Shaw? 13 A. Yes, I do. 14 Q. And how do you know Ricky? 15 A. He worked for me. 16 Q. Had he been somebody who worked for you his 17 entire duration with Cumberland Truck? 18 A. Ricky was there when I came back. 19 Q. And what was his position? 20 A. He worked in Warehouse B. 21 Q. Was there a title for the job that he held? 22 A. No. Just a Warehouse B worker. 23 Q. Who was Ricky's immediate supervisor in 24 25 2002?

- A. Tim Kline.

 Q. Through 2007 did that ever change?
 - A. No, I don't think so.
 - Q. And who was Tim Kline's supervisor?
- 5 A. Until 2004 it was Chuck Hoffman and then it was me and then it was me.
- Q. Did you supervise anyone else at Cumberland
 Truck?
 - A. Yeah, I had the whole parts operation in Carlisle.
- 11 Q. Where was your office located?
 - A. In Building A at the parts counter.
- Q. Was that near Mr. Hoffman's office?
- 14 **A.** No.

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- Q. And physically where was it in comparison to Mr. Hoffman's office?
- A. He was in the back of the building, I was in the front of the building.
- Q. Same building, just opposite ends?
- 20 **A.** Yeah.
- Q. And this building is separate from the
 warehouse, a separate structure from the
 warehouse, isn't that correct?
- A. From Warehouse B, that's correct.
- Q. Has your office always been in that

location? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. And how often would you find yourself in 3 warehouse B? 4 A. A couple of times a day as needed. 5 Q. Give me an example, why would you need to 6 be in Warehouse B? 7 A. If I had to check inventory, a discrepancy 8 in shipping or whatever needed. 9 Q. And when you went to Warehouse B to do 10 these things that you just mentioned, typically 11 how long would you be in the warehouse? 12 A. It varied. Until I was done doing what I 13 needed to do. It could have been two hours, it 14 could have been five minutes. 15 Q. Did you ever spend all day in the 16 warehouse? 17 18 A. Yes. Q. Was that a frequent occurrence? 19 A. No. When we did the pallet rack move 20 project or the mezzanine project I was there 21 all day. 22 Q. How many employees did you have in 23 Warehouse B in 2006? 24 25 A. I believe twelve. 38 employees total, so

I'm really not sure. 1 Q. At that point you were running two shifts, 2 is that correct? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. How many people were on that first shift? 5 A. In Warehouse B? 6 7 Q. Yes. A. It would have been ten of them. 8 Q. And was Ricky on that first shift in 9 Warehouse B? 10 11 A. Yes. Q. Had you ever had the opportunity to perform 12 the warehouse worker in Warehouse B in Carlisle? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. And when did you do that? 15 A. When needed. 16 Q. And was that something you did as part of 17 your supervisory duties, you just pitched in 18 when it was needed? 19 A. I just pitched in and did what needed to be 20 done. 2.1 Q. How much of your time would you say you did 22 this job of warehouse worker? 23 A. Five percent. I don't know how to answer 24 25 the question. It depended.

Q. Okay. Did you ever lift anything while you 1 were working in Warehouse B? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. And what was the heaviest item you had to 4 lift? 5 A. The heaviest thing I lifted was probably 6 7 125 pounds. Q. And what's the heaviest item that a 8 warehouse worker would lift unassisted? 9 A. It depended on the warehouse worker. 10 Q. Okay. How about Ricky Shaw? 11 A. He could lift a house. 12 (Brief pause.) 13 Q. Typically would an employee in the 14 warehouse have to carry an item? 15 A. Sometimes, yes. 16 Q. And how far would they carry an item? 17 A. They could carry it from the front to the 18 back of the warehouse. 19 O. And what's that distance? 20 A. A hundred feet. 2.1 Q. Do you require -- do you recall giving your 22 deposition in Mr. Crocenzi's office on July 23 11th, 2010? 24 25 A. Yes, I do.

Q. And I'm going to show you a copy of your 1 deposition transcript. 2 THE COURT: Mr. Russo, could you give the 3 page number for --4 Q. I'm sorry, it's page number 10, line -- or 5 page number 8, line number 10. Page number 8, 6 7 line number 10. In fact it's highlighted in that deposition. Take a moment to review that. 8 A. Okay. 9 Q. Does that refresh your recollection about 10 an answer to the question about the heaviest 11 item that somebody would lift unassisted? 12 A. That's what's stipulated in the 13 requirements when we run an ad. 14 Q. I'm not quite sure I understand that 15 question, or that answer. What's stipulated in 16 the ad? 17 A. You'd have to at least lift 65 pounds 18 unassisted. 19 Q. That's what you advertised --20 2.1 A. Yes. Q. -- in public newspapers for people who want 22 this job? 23 A. Yes. 24 25 Q. So is that different than what actually

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happened?
1
       A. Sometimes, yes.
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       Q. Is it different than the actual job
3
     requirement?
4
       A. No.
5
       Q. Are there any implements available or tools
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     available for warehouse workers to use when
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     they're trying to move or carry an item?
8
       A. Yes.
9
       Q. For example what's available?
10
       A. Forklift. A hand truck. A cart. Pallet
11
     jack.
12
       Q. Have you seen your subordinates using those
13
     items when moving or carrying things?
14
       A. Yes.
15
       Q. Have you ever used those items when you've
16
     moved things?
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       A. Yes.
          (Brief pause.)
19
       Q. I'm going to show you what has been marked
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     as Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 9, which is titled
21
     the job analysis. Mr. Whitmire, have you ever
22
     seen that document before?
23
       A. Yes.
24
25
       Q. And you didn't contribute any information
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to the creation of that document, is that 1 correct? 2 A. No. 3 Q. This document indicates that lifting is 4 required occasionally up to 150 pounds, is that 5 correct? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. Now, that's different than what you just 8 told us you advertise in newspapers? 9 A. That's lifted with assistance. 10 Q. So in this job analysis is it your 11 interpretation that lifting 150 pounds 12 occasionally means you're supposed to lift 150 13 pounds occasionally with assistance? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. And then the lifting requirement on this 16 document also says that you need to lift 17 frequently seventy pounds. Is that an accurate 18 description of what's required of a warehouse 19 worker? 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Q. And again based on your testimony that you 22 just gave us I would assume that you also expect 23 people to lift seventy pounds with assistance? 24 A. Yes. 25

Q. Carrying is the next category, carrying 1 occasionally 150 pounds. Is that an accurate 2 description of what a warehouse worker does? 3 A. No. 4 Q. What's accurate? 5 A. That depends on the employee, on the 6 7 person. Q. So it varies? 8 A. Uh-huh. 9 Q. What about carrying weight or carrying 10 something up to seventy pounds frequently? 11 A. Again it depends on the employee. 12 Q. So is your testimony that's not really 13 accurate for what a warehouse worker does? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. And again safe to assume that if I can't 16 lift it by myself, that for any worker you'd 17 expect them to do it with assistance if they're 18 going to carry it? 19 A. Yep. 20 Q. Okay. Did you ever see Ricky Shaw prior to 21 February 26th, 2007 have any trouble lifting 22 items? 23 A. No. 24 25 Q. Did you ever see Ricky have any trouble

carrying items? 1 A. No. 2 Q. Standing. Did you ever see Ricky have any 3 trouble standing? 4 A. No, not standing. 5 Q. How about bending? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. And when did you see him having trouble 8 bending? 9 A. You want the date? 10 O. Time frame. 11 A. He was -- I don't know the time frame. 12 Q. And when you say bending, Ricky is not so 13 small, bending that he couldn't touch his toes? 14 Bending that -- describe what problems you saw. 15 A. Just bending down like he was moving a 16 spring or something. I don't really recall the 17 whole particulars of the incident. 18 Q. So are you thinking of one incident or 19 there's multiple and that's the only one you can 20 think of? 2.1 A. That's the only one I can think of. 22 Q. And again time frame, any feel for when 23 that happened? 24 25 A. I have no clue.

Q. Did you ever discipline him for not being 1 able to bend? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Was this something that you felt was truly 4 Ricky not being to perform his duties? 5 A. No. 6 7 Q. So he was able to perform his duties? A. Uh-huh. 8 THE COURT: I'm sorry, you have to give 9 verbal responses. 10 11 A. Yes. Sorry. Yes. Q. What about squatting? How much squatting 12 does your typical warehouse worker do? 13 A. Again it depends on what they're pulling. 14 Q. I'm sorry, depends on what they're --15 A. It depends on what parts they're 16 retrieving. 17 Q. Okay. Had you ever seen Ricky having 18 trouble prior to 2007 with squatting? 19 A. Yes. 20 21 Q. Again time frame? A. I believe it was the same time. 22 Q. At that point did you think that it caused 23 Ricky to be unable to perform his duties? 24 25 A. No.

Q. How about climbing? Have you ever seen any 1 difficulties with Ricky climbing? 2 A. No. 3 Q. How about walking? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Tell me about walking. What difficulties 6 7 did you see with Ricky walking? A. He just looked like it labored for him to 8 It was hard for him to walk at times. 9 wasn't a constant thing. 10 (Brief pause.) 11 Q. I'm going to call your attention to what's 12 been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 6. 13 Have you ever seen what's Plaintiff's Exhibit 14 Number 6 before? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. And when did you see that? 17 A. When I was hired --18 Q. Let me strike that and ask you, had you 19 seen that prior to this litigation? 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Q. And what is that document? 22 A. It's what's in our policy manual. 23 Q. And is it fair to say this is a job 24 25 description of the distribution warehouse

```
worker?
1
       A. Yes.
2
       Q. Did you have any input into the creation of
3
     this document?
4
5
       A. No.
       Q. Putting that aside for a second, did you
6
7
     ever create a job description for this warehouse
     worker position?
8
       A. No.
9
       Q. Are you sure about that?
10
       A. Not that I recall, no.
11
          (Brief pause.)
12
       Q. Do you recall, do you have a job
13
     description for your employees?
14
       A. Yes.
15
       Q. And what is your job description for the
16
     employees?
17
       A. As far as which employees?
18
       Q. Warehouse workers, I apologize.
19
       A. That is the job description for the
20
     warehouse employees.
21
       Q. Okay. Do you recall creating your own
22
     warehouse worker job description that you
23
     provided to HR at some point?
24
25
       A. No, I don't recall that.
```

```
Q. Mr. Whitmire, I'm going to call your
1
     attention to page 12 of your deposition which
2
     was on January 11th, 2010, and page 12, line 13.
3
     Can you take a moment, just read through that
4
     highlighted section?
5
       A. Page 12?
6
7
       Q. Yes.
          (Brief pause.)
8
       A. Yes.
9
       Q. Does that refresh your memory about talking
10
     with us about another job description that you
11
     physically created?
12
13
       A. No.
       Q. Okay.
14
          (Brief pause.)
15
       Q. In front of you you have exhibit,
16
     Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 9 and Plaintiff's
17
     Exhibit Number 6.
18
       A. Okay.
19
       Q. As a supervisor of Warehouse B who
20
21
     supervises warehouse workers, which job
     description is more accurate?
22
          (Brief pause.)
23
       A. Both of them.
24
25
       Q. They're both accurate?
```

A. Uh-huh, yes. 1 Q. Would you agree with me that Plaintiff's 2 Exhibit Number 6 it says nothing about climbing? 3 A. No. 4 Q. You would not agree with me? 5 A. No, it says nothing about climbing. 6 7 THE COURT: So yes, you would agree with that? 8 A. Yes, I would agree with you. 9 Q. And would you agree with me that 10 Plaintiff's Number 6 says nothing about 11 squatting? 12 A. Yes, I agree with you. 13 Q. Nor does it say anything about bending? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Nor does it say anything about a 16 requirement about walking? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Again no requirement with respect to 19 standing? 20 21 A. Yes. Q. And no requirement with respect to 22 carrying? 23 A. Yes. 24 25 Q. How, there is a requirement which says you

may have to I believe lift up to 150 pounds on 1 an occasional basis and seventy pounds on a 2 frequent basis, is that correct? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Do you believe that Ricky was a qualified 5 employee based on his job skills and abilities? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. And do you believe that Ricky could perform 8 those duties? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Do you believe that he was qualified to do 11 the job based on what you physically saw of him? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. And based on what you physically saw of him 14 did you believe that he was able to do the job? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. At some point did you consider him to be 17 the lead receiver in Warehouse B? 18 A. I didn't. Mr. Kline did. 19 Q. And what would that mean to Mr. Kline or to 20 21 anyone else? A. He primarily did the shipping and 22 receiving. 23 Q. And what's primarily involved in shipping 24 25 and receiving?

A. Pulling the orders, loading the truck, 1 unloading the truck. 2 Q. Is that primarily accomplished by using a 3 forklift? 4 A. If one needed, yes. 5 Q. Okay. When Ricky would take the product 6 7 off of a truck with a forklift, what would happen to it at that point? 8 A. He would put it in the staging area to be 9 checked in and received. 10 Q. And when you say checked in for staging or 11 receiving, what does that mean to us? 12 A. They would unload the truck, put it in an 13 area, and then when we got time we checked it in 14 and received it in our inventory and then put it 15 away. 16 Q. So when you check in and receive it into 17 your inventory, are you taking a bill of lading 18 or some document and checking off to make sure 19 you got different parts? 20 2.1 A. Yes. Q. And are they're physically computer entered 22 into an inventory system? 23 A. Yes. 24

U.S. District Court, Middle District of PA

Q. And is that all done in Warehouse B?

25

A. No. 1 Q. Where is that done? 2 A. The warehouse work is done in Warehouse B. 3 The receiving is done in the front office. 4 Q. And the front office part, is that the 5 actual putting inventory into the computer? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. So everything we talked about is done in 8 Warehouse B except putting it into the computer? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. What's the time frame in which Mr. Kline 11 believed Ricky was the lead receiver? 12 A. I don't have the time frame. I guess 2007. 13 O. Once all that's checked in and received is 14 it then put on shelves? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. Is that accomplished again using a 17 forklift? 18 A. It depends. Some is done with a hand 19 truck, some is done with a pallet jack. 20 2.1 Q. So it depends on where it needs to go and what kind of item it is? 22 A. Yep, yes. 23 Q. In February of 2007 did you see Ricky 24 25 lifting items?

A. Yes. 1 Q. And what was the biggest item you saw him 2 lift? 3 A. I don't recall the item. It could have 4 been anything. 5 Q. Was he lifting seventy pounds? 6 A. I'm sure he was. 7 Q. Was he lifting a hundred pounds? 8 A. Again I'm sure he was. Knowing Ricky I 9 really didn't witness him, any particular thing 10 comes to mind. 11 Q. Do you think Ricky at that point could have 12 lifted 150 pounds occasionally? 13 A. Probably if he wanted to, head. 14 Q. Was he able to lift those things by himself 15 if he wanted to? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. How about carrying things? At that point 18 in February of 2007 did you see Ricky carrying 19 items in the warehouse? 20 A. I'm sure I did. I don't recall anything 2.1 specific. 22 Q. You're not going to be able to recall any 23 kind of items he --24 25 A. No.

Q. Would you agree that the items probably 1 weighed in excess of 65 pounds? 2 A. I'm sure they did. 3 Q. In general Cumberland Truck what kind of 4 items weighed 65 pounds? 5 A. Cases of oil, certain brake drums. There's 6 7 a number of parts. Q. And are the weights of these items 8 identified in catalogs or billing ladles or 9 something of that nature? 10 A. Most of them are in catalogs, yes. 11 Q. Again in February of 2007 you told us that 12 you saw difficulty with Ricky walking, is that 13 correct? 14 15 A. Yes. Q. But the rest of the items which are on 16 Exhibit 9 you didn't see him having any 17 difficulty performing? 18 A. No. 19 No. Q. Did you ever discipline Ricky for any 20 concerns that you had with walking? 21 A. No. 22 Q. Ever put any notes in his personnel file 23 about that? 24 25 A. Not that I recall, no.

```
Q. Were you a part of Ricky's evaluation
1
     process?
2
       A. No.
3
       Q. Did you approve his evaluation?
4
       A. Yes.
5
       Q. And when did you begin to approve Ricky's
6
     evaluation?
7
       A. When I took over the warehouse in 2004.
8
       Q. I'm going to show you we've marked as
9
     Plaintiff's Number 3 for identification. Can
10
     you identify what that is?
11
       A. It's an evaluation.
12
13
       Q. And is that your signature --
       A. Yes.
14
       Q. -- on the fourth page?
15
       A. Yes.
16
          MR. RUSSO: I would like to publish
17
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 3 to the jury.
18
          THE COURT: Any objections?
19
          MS. SALTZ: No objection.
20
2.1
          THE COURT: You may.
          BY MR. RUSSO:
22
       Q. Ladies and gentlemen, hopefully you see in
23
     front of you on the screen a document. If you
24
     can't let us know and we'll make sure the
25
```

screens are turned on. And, Mr. Whitmire, is 1 that your signature where it says "approved by"? 2 A. Yes. 3 THE COURT: For the record, Mr. Russo, this 4 is page 4? 5 Q. This is page 4, yes, and what I'm going to 6 do, Mr. Whitmire, is I'm going to go through the 7 pages and show you page 1 and then I'm going to 8 go through page 2, and, Mr. Whitmire, the way it 9 appears as though this is sort of a document 10 that you'd almost read side by side, page 2 and 11 page 3. It looks like that there's a category 12 on the left-hand side and then performance 13 categories, is that correct? 14 A. Uh-huh. 15 Q. And I'm going to show the next page, which 16 is the actual scores that were provided. 17 18 A. Yes. Q. Was there anything within those scores that 19 raised concern for you? 20 21 A. No. Q. Then I'm going to show you the comments 22 section, and again did you make any comments on 23 this evaluation? 24 25 A. Yes.

```
Q. And where were they?
1
       A. Both comments were mine.
2
       Q. Where I just marked the spot, is that your
3
     comment?
4
5
       A. Both comments, yes.
       Q. Those two, correct?
6
7
       A. Correct, yes.
       Q. Would you agree that the 2004 evaluation
8
     was acceptable?
9
       A. Yes.
10
       Q. Good even?
11
       A. Good.
12
          (Brief pause.)
13
       Q. I'm going to show you what we have marked
14
     as P-4. Can you identify what P-4 is?
15
       A. Another evaluation.
16
       Q. And this is for the next year, correct?
17
       A. Yes.
18
       Q. Do you know is this a true and correct copy
19
     of that document?
20
21
       A. Yes.
       Q. This one does not bear your signature,
22
     correct?
23
       A. No.
24
25
       Q. Would you have approved this one?
```

A. Apparently I didn't. 1 Q. It's your belief, your testimony you did 2 not? 3 A. I did not. 4 Q. Okay. With what you see in Plaintiff's 4 5 would it have raised any concerns for you? 6 A. No. 7 Q. And appears to be a good evaluation as 8 well? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you what's been 11 premarked as Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 5. Can 12 you identify what Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 5 13 is? 14 A. An evaluation. 15 Q. This was Mr. Shaw's final evaluation 16 correct? 17 A. I believe so, yes. 18 Q. And is that your signature in the lower 19 right-hand corner of page 2? 20 21 A. Yes, it is. MR. RUSSO: Your Honor, I request to publish 22 this to the jury as well. 23 THE COURT: Any objection? 24 25 MS. SALTZ: No objection.

THE COURT: You may. 1 BY MR. RUSSO: 2 Q. Mr. Whitmire, I'm going to show you the 3 first page. On this first page do you see 4 anything that concerns you as a supervisor? 5 6 A. No. 7 Q. And number 2 lists productivity? A. Uh-huh. 8 Q. And he has a score of 79, is that correct? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. And there it says, "I believe gets done 11 what he physically can." Is that also correct? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. And a score of 79, is that just the top end 14 of the good range, just below the very good? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. Mr. Whitmire, this is page 2 of Exhibit 17 Number 5 on the lower right-hand corner, is that 18 your signature? 19 A. Yes. 20 21 Q. And next to that is that the signature of the Ricky's supervisor, Mr. Kline? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. Within this second page is there anything 24 25 here that concerns you about his evaluation?

A. No. 1 Q. Again it's a good evaluation? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. And the date of this evaluation, January 4 11th, 2007, is that correct? I'm sorry, January 5 10th, 2007. I believe that's in the lower 6 left-hand corner --7 A. Yes. 8 Q. -- of Mr. Kline's signature? 9 (Brief pause.) 10 Q. Mr. Whitmire, did you ever receive any 11 complaints about Ricky seeming to be intoxicated 12 or dizzy or being under the effects of some kind 13 of medication? 14 15 A. No. Q. Did you ever see Ricky walking with a cane? 16 A. Yes. 17 O. And when was this? 18 A. When he was in the warehouse. I can't tell 19 you an exact time, I don't know. 20 21 Q. Was it from the first day Ricky began working with Cumberland Truck? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Was it toward the end of his employment 24 with Cumberland Truck? 25

A. Yes. 1 Q. Did you ever talk to him about his cane? 2 A. I don't know specifically about the cane. 3 I knew we talked about his knees. 4 Q. When did you talk to him about his knees? 5 A. Towards the end. 6 7 Q. Okay. What do you recall about the conversation regarding Ricky's knees? 8 A. Just his knees were bothering him. I told 9 him to take it easy. 10 Q. What did you mean by that? 11 A. Not to overdo himself. 12 13 Q. Expressing a concern? A. Yes. 14 Q. Did you ever tell him that he couldn't use 15 his cane at work? 16 17 A. No. Q. To the best of your knowledge is there any 18 prohibition at Cumberland Truck about using 19 canes? 20 A. Not to my knowledge, no. 21 Q. Did you ever find it necessary to tell 22 Ricky to stop working because of anything you 23 saw him having difficulty doing? 24 25 A. No.

Q. And I would assume also you never told him 1 to stop working because he had difficulty 2 walking? 3 A. No. 4 Q. To the best of your knowledge did Ricky 5 ever ask you to change any of his job duties? 6 7 A. No. Q. Did you get any reports from Mr. Kline 8 indicating that Ricky was having difficulty 9 performing his work duties? 10 A. The only reports I got from Mr. Kline was 11 that Ricky had trouble going up and down the 12 steps and other employees were pulling carts for 13 him. 14 Q. Did you ever get any complaints or concerns 15 from Mr. Kline that Ricky wasn't productive as 16 an employee? 17 18 A. No. Q. Who did you report to? 19 A. Chuck Hoffman. 20 21 Q. And where was Bryan Sheldon in your chain of command? 22 A. Bryan is the controller. 23 Q. So would he be above Mr. Hoffman? 24 25 A. He's equal to Mr. Hoffman.

Q. And you didn't report to Mr. Sheldon, you 1 reported directly to Mr. Hoffman? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Did you ever speak to Mr. Hoffman or 4 Mr. Sheldon about your concerns, your 5 observations with Ricky? 6 A. I spoke with Mr. Sheldon. 7 Q. When did you do that? 8 A. The day we sent him for the evaluation. 9 Q. When you spoke with Mr. Sheldon on the day 10 that you sent Ricky to his evaluation, that 11 would have been February 27th, February 26th, 12 2007, is that correct? 13 A. I believe so, yes. 14 Q. At that point did you tell anybody about 15 the conversations that you had with Ricky about 16 his knees? 17 A. Not that I recall. 18 Q. And do you remember what you may have said 19 to Mr. Sheldon at that point? 20 A. Chuck Hoffman came to me and said he 2.1 witnessed Ricky having problem walking across 22 the parking lot. 23 Q. So fair to say you didn't report this, but 24 somebody sought you out, Mr. Hoffman, to say 25

hey, I'm seeing problems, what are you seeing? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. So together you went to talk to 3 Mr. Sheldon? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Do you remember what was said to 6 7 Mr. Sheldon at that point? A. Other than what I just said, he had looked 8 like he was really laboring to walk across the 9 parking lot and at that point we were going to 10 send him for an evaluation. 11 Q. At that point you had no other 12 conversations with Mr. Sheldon about Ricky, 13 is that correct? 14 A. Not that I recall, no. 15 Q. And you had no other conversations with 16 Mr. Hoffman about Ricky? 17 A. No, not that I recall. 18 Q. Do you know whether Mr. Sheldon and 19 Mr. Hoffman had additional conversations prior 20 to that? 2.1 A. I don't know that. 22 Q. Do you remember anything Mr. Hoffman said 23 at that meeting? 24 25 A. Other than he witnessed him he could barely

walk across the parking lot. 1 Q. Did he give you a time frame or incidences? 2 A. No. Just that time. 3 Q. To the best of your knowledge Mr. Hoffman 4 knew of one event? 5 A. To my recollection, yes. 6 7 Q. At that point you said it seemed that there was a decision that was made to send him to 8 Concentra? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Do you know who made that decision? 11 A. Bryan Sheldon. 12 Q. Did you agree with that decision? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Why? 15 A. Because if he had trouble walking he needed 16 to get checked out. 17 Q. But you had witnessed this before? 18 A. Not to that extent, no. 19 Q. But this was the first time that you felt 20 it had risen to a level that needed somebody 2.1 else's intercession? 22 A. From what I was being told, yes. 23 Q. And I'm sorry, you said from what you were 24 25 being told?

A. Yes. 1 Q. And what were you being told that raised 2 your concern? 3 A. That he could barely make it across the 4 parking lot. 5 Q. But you didn't see that? 6 7 A. No. Q. At some point Ricky was told about this 8 evaluation, correct? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Did you tell him? 11 A. I don't remember. I don't believe so. 12 Q. Do you remember talking to Ricky at all 13 about the evaluation itself? 14 A. I don't remember. I'm sure I did, but I 15 don't remember the conversation. 16 Q. Okay. Do you remember Ricky's reaction to 17 you when you talked to him about it? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Did you send anything to Concentra with 20 Ricky when he left that day? 2.1 A. No. 22 Q. Do you know if anybody else did? 23 A. I'm sure Brenda did, but I didn't. 24 25 Q. Does Cumberland Truck have a safety

committee? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. What's their function in your opinion? 3 A. They review the issues within our entire 4 5 company. Q. Safety issues? 6 7 A. And take them to the owners and make decisions on what they want to do. 8 Q. Did you ask the safety committee to get 9 involved in Ricky Shaw's situations before 10 sending him to Concentra? 11 A. I don't think we had the safety committee 12 at that time. 13 Q. When was the safety committee created? 14 A. I'm not sure. 15 Q. Had you ever seen Ricky operate the 16 forklift with a cane? 17 A. No, I haven't. 18 Q. Did you hear that from somebody at some 19 point? 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Q. Do you remember who you heard that from? 22 A. Mr. Kline. 23 Q. Mr. Kline? Do you remember when that 24 25 allegation was lodged?

- A. I heard it after the, after we sent him to 1 Concentra, so I can't tell you when it happened. 2 Q. Do you know if Mr. Kline disciplined Ricky 3 for it? 4 A. I don't know that. 5 Q. You're the manager, would you have signed 6 off on a disciplinary action? 7 A. Probably, yes. 8 Q. But you never signed off on a disciplinary 9 action which indicated Mr. Shaw was operating a 10 forklift with a cane? 11 A. No. 12 Q. Do you have anything to do with raises that 13 are given to warehouse workers in Warehouse B? 14 A. Just recommendations. 15 Q. And in 2007, 8, and 9 was it recommended 16 that warehouse workers get a raise? 17 A. Yes, depending on the warehouse worker. 18 Q. And it's typically the cost of living index 19 what's used as the gauge? 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Q. Do you recall what the average rate of 22 increase was for warehouse workers during that 23 time period? 24
 - A. 2 and a half, 3 percent.

25

Q. And fair that every one of the warehouse 1 workers at that point got a raise? 2 A. Yes. 3 MR. RUSSO: I have nothing further, Your 4 5 Honor. THE COURT: Cross? 6 7 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MS. SALTZ: Q. Thank you, Your Honor. Mr. Whitmire, where 8 is your office in location to Warehouse B? 9 A. Now? 10 O. At the time in 2007. 11 A. In the front of the building at the parts 12 counter. 13 Q. Okay, and from your location could you see 14 that back parking lot between the warehouse and 15 the office? 16 17 A. No. Q. How often were you in the warehouse on a 18 daily basis? 19 A. As needed. 20 Q. Okay. Were there days that you were not in 21 the warehouse? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. And during the times that you were in the 24 25 warehouse, approximately how long would you be

```
in the warehouse?
1
       A. It could be five minutes, it could be five
2
     hours, depending on the situation.
3
       Q. And would that happen on a weekly basis,
4
     monthly basis, where you would spend five hours
5
     in the warehouse?
6
7
       A. Probably a monthly basis on the five hours,
     yes.
8
       Q. Now, Tim Kline was the manager of Warehouse
9
     в?
10
11
       A. Yes.
       Q. And he reported directly to you?
12
       A. Yes.
13
       Q. At any point at the end of 2006, early
14
     2007, did Mr. Kline come to you and tell you
15
     that Ricky Shaw was having problems?
16
       A. No.
17
       Q. Doing his job?
18
       A. No.
19
       Q. If Mr. Shaw was having problems doing his
20
21
     job was he required to come to you with that
     information?
22
       A. Yes.
23
       Q. What kind of a manager was Mr. Kline?
24
25
       A. Not a good one.
```

Q. After the situation with Mr. Shaw not being 1 able to return to work based on that exam, was 2 any action taken against Mr. Kline? 3 A. Not for that, no. 4 Q. The fact that he didn't disclose to you 5 what was going on in the warehouse with regard 6 7 to Mr. Shaw, did that play any part in any kind of action with regard to Mr. Kline? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Was he demoted? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. Why was he demoted? 12 A. Because he wasn't to my standard of a 13 supervisor. 14 Q. And what was it that he wasn't doing that 15 wasn't up to your standard? 16 A. His job. 17 Q. In what way? 18 A. He was lazy. 19 Q. Now, in talking about the two, you still 20 have Number 6 and Number 9 up there, Plaintiff's 21 Exhibit 6 and Plaintiff's Exhibit 9? 22 A. Which one is 9? 2.3 Q. 9 is the job analysis. 24 A. Yes. 25

Q. And 6 is the assigned duties on page 2. 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Turn to page 2 on Number 6. 3 A. Okay. 4 Q. Mr. Russo was asking you questions, I 5 believe the question he asked you is that which 6 7 one of these job descriptions is accurate and you said they both are. 8 A. Okay. 9 Q. Do you recall saying that? 10 11 A. Yes. Q. Okay. Let's take a look at the one that 12 says Number 6. Now, on there with the exception 13 of heavy lifting are there any physical 14 requirements under assigned duties, a section 15 physical requirements? 16 A. All of them. 17 Q. They all require physical requirements? 18 A. Uh-huh. 19 Q. But they're not set out here as to what 20 21 those requirements are? A. Other than 11, the heavy lifting. 22 Q. Okay. Tell me what's physically required 23 in pulling customer orders. 24

U.S. District Court, Middle District of PA

A. Carrying, lifting, bending, squatting,

25

depending on the parts and where they're 1 located. 2 Q. And what you say depending on the parts, 3 meaning how big or how small the parts are? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. And where they're located, meaning either 6 7 up on a shelves or on pallets in a truck --A. Yes. 8 Q. -- in a warehouse? Yes? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Load and unload delivery trucks. 11 physical requirements are required for that? 12 A. The same. 13 Q. All right. Accurately checking the stock 14 orders from branch and from vendors. What do 15 you need to do for that? 16 A. The same. 17 Q. Immediately inform manager of any 18 discrepancy. Obviously you have to walk over 19 and tell a manager? 20 2.1 A. Yes. Q. Fill and maintain stock shelves. What's 22 required for that? 23 \mathbf{A} . The same as 1, 2, and 3. 24 25 Q. Deliver parts as required using company

vehicle, that means sometimes you have to drive? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. There is some answering phones, pulling 3 orders? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Operating forklift, we talked about that. 6 7 Housekeeping duties, what kind of housekeeping duties? 8 A. Picking up skids, sweeping the floor, 9 whatever needs done. 10 Q. What do you mean by picking up skids? 11 A. If you have empty skid pallets on the floor 12 we stage them in a trailer for disposal. 13 Q. You got to bend down, pick them up, and 14 carry them? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. Cleaning and straightening of shelves. 17 What's required for that? 18 A. The same thing. You have to move parts 19 around, face parts, bring old stuff to the 20 front. 21 Q. Do you have to climb ladders or stairs for 22 any of this? 23 A. Some, yes. 24 25 Q. So there is, these are just the written

```
descriptions of what's being done, but you're
1
     telling us what the physical responsibilities
2
     are?
3
       A. Yes.
4
       Q. All right, let's take a look at the
5
     physical requirements on D-9. And I'm sorry,
6
7
     Mr. Whitmire, I was a little confused by your
     testimony when you were being asked as to the
8
     lifting and carrying requirement. I believe you
9
10
     said there was a 65 pounds is what's expected of
     someone being able to lift on their own?
11
       A. That's the minimum requirement.
12
       Q. Okay, so 65, 70 pounds?
13
       A. Yes.
14
       Q. All right, and as far as occasional lifting
15
     up to 150 pounds, somebody could lift 150
16
     pounds?
17
18
       A. Yes.
       Q. On their own?
19
       A. Yes.
20
21
       O. Unassisted?
       A. Yes.
22
       Q. Okay. So I think what I got a little
23
     confused, and help me with this, is that when
24
25
     you were testifying after these lifting and
```

carrying requirements, you kept on saying it's 1 based on the individual. 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Okay. So that means you may have a 4 warehouse worker that can only lift fifty pounds 5 unassisted, and another warehouse worker that 6 7 could lift 140 pounds unassisted? A. The warehouse workers can at least lift 65 8 pound. 9 Q. Okay. They have to lift at least 65 10 pounds? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. And they have to carry at least 65 pounds? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Okay. Anything over that 65 pound mark is 15 really up to the individual? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. I mean, there comes a point in time when 18 you want them to use judgement as to having an 19 assistant helping them? 20 21 A. Yes. Q. Okay. So does the fact that someone can 22 lift up to 140 pounds, that's okay, that means 23 they can do it without somebody helping them? 24 25 A. Yes.

Q. Now, you also talked about forklifts, hand 1 trucks, carts, and pallet jacks. All right, 2 forklift obviously, that's where you sit in it 3 and you drive it, right? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Hand truck? 6 7 A. Is a two-wheeled dolly. Q. What do you, how do you -- what's the 8 physical, physically what do I have to do the 9 use the hand truck? 10 A. Be able to pull it back and push it or pull 11 it. 12 Q. Walk with it? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Cart. What about a cart? What do you need 15 to do physically with a cart? 16 A. Be able to lift a product onto the cart and 17 push it? 18 Q. What's a cart look like? This is just for 19 my sake and the jury's sake just so I can get a 20 21 picture. A. It's a four-wheeled cart. Some have two 22 shelves to it. It's probably 30 by 42, 40, 23 depending on the cart. 24 25 Q. Is it like a flatbed?

A. Yes. 1 Q. That's what I'm imagining, a handle with a 2 flatbed? 3 A. Yes, there's different style of carts, but 4 that's one of them, yes. 5 Q. And then you have one that has like two 6 7 shelves on it? A. Yes. 8 Q. So you have to actually pick up the product 9 from somewhere and then put it onto the cart? 10 11 A. Yes. Q. So that requires bending, squatting? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. And you have to push that cart? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Pallet jack I think we talked about. 16 That's the same thing, you have to, it's a walk 17 behind? 18 19 A. Yes. Q. You got to use both hands to operate a 20 pallet jack? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. It's got the forks, so the product, you 23 have to again physically walk behind it? 24 25 A. Yes, or pull it.

Q. You worked in the warehouse, right? 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. How many hours are you on your feet 3 standing, standing, walking? 4 A. Probably 90 percent of it. 5 Q. So you're constantly moving around doing 6 7 something? A. Yes. 8 Q. Climbing up stairs, coming down stairs, 9 walking around, walking to and from the main 10 building? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. Now, you said you noticed yourself that 13 Mr. Shaw was having some difficulty. 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Now, the time frame, was that before he was 16 sent for the exam? 17 18 A. Yes. Q. Was that closer to that time frame? 19 A. I don't recall. It could have been a year 20 before that, I don't recall. 21 Q. Okay. Now, what was it -- strike that. 22 Let me ask it this way. When Mr. Hoffman came 23 to you, what did he say to you? 24 25 A. That Ricky had problems walking across the

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parking lot, looked like he would barely make
1
     it.
2
       Q. And that's about eighty feet between those
3
     two buildings?
4
       A. Roughly, yes.
5
6
       Q. Did that cause you concern?
7
       A. Yes.
       Q. Tell me why it caused you concern.
8
       A. Because obviously he was in pain.
9
       Q. And the fact that --
10
       A. A lot of pain.
11
       Q. Excuse me?
12
       A. A lot of pain.
13
       Q. All right, and the fact that he was in
14
     pain, why was that a concern?
15
       A. Because we cared about Ricky.
16
       Q. And what was your concern about Ricky?
17
       A. That he can't walk.
18
       Q. And how would that, how did it impact with
19
     his doing his job?
20
       A. Because he could end up seriously hurting
21
     himself.
22
       Q. In what way?
23
       A. He could drop a part on him.
24
       Q. I'm sorry?
25
```

A. He could drop a part on him. He could drop 1 it on his toe. He could -- there's numerous 2 things that could happen. 3 Q. What about was there any concern with him 4 climbing up and down the steps? 5 A. Not to me, no. 6 7 Q. Do you know if he could climb or not? A. Again after we sent him I heard that they 8 were giving him assistance so he didn't have to 9 go up and down the steps, which was fine with 10 11 me. Q. Who did you hear that he was getting 12 assistance from? 13 A. Tim Kline. 14 O. So after he was sent to be examined 15 Mr. Kline came to you and talked about what was 16 going on in that warehouse prior to the exam? 17 A. That, yes. 18 Q. What else did Mr. Kline tell you? 19 A. That was about it, that he was struggling 20 to walk. 2.1 Q. And you said that -- what about with regard 22 to other workers in the warehouse? Was there 23 concern for you as to Mr. Shaw's struggling to 24

walk?

25

A. Well, yes. 1 Q. Why was that a concern? 2 A. Because if he was on a forklift and not 3 able to move his knee and can't stop it, it he 4 could've ran into somebody or knocked a rack 5 over or there's numerous things that could 6 7 happen. Q. How important is squatting in that job? 8 A. As important as any other one. 9 Q. You got to squat to pick up products? 10 11 A. Some, yes. MS. SALTZ: I have no further questions. 12 THE COURT: Mr. Russo, anything further. 13 REDIRECT BY MR. RUSSO: 14 Q. Please, Your Honor. Mr. Whitmire, on 15 Exhibit Number 6, which is the warehouse worker 16 job description, you told counsel that in the 17 assigned duties that you would need to lift and 18 walk and bend, is that correct? 19 A. Yes. 20 21 Q. And that's this one? A. Yes. I'm trying to find it here, I'm 22 sorry. 23 Q. That's okay. You said you would have to 24 25 lift and walk and bend, correct?

A. Yes.

- Q. And that's not in that document, you're just saying in essence these are the things you probably would have to do to get that part of the job done.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, if I have to lift something and walk it, and you described to your counsel that you would have to lift something and put it on the cart so you could use the cart, correct?
- **A.** Yes.
 - Q. Is it fair to say I could take a forklift, lift the product to the level of the cart, and slide it onto the cart?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And use the cart to walk?
- 17 A. Yes, you could.
 - Q. So it's not necessarily true that I need to be able to bend, lift, squat or do all those things, but if I took an item onto a forklift, made it parallel to the cart, and slid it across, I could get to the same point?
- 23 A. It depends on where the part's at.
- **Q.** True.
- **A.** We have narrow aisles that you can't get a

forklift into. 1 Q. True, but it's possible to do it the way I 2 described? 3 A. As long as you're not in a narrow aisle, 4 5 yes. Q. On top of that counsel talked about hand 6 7 carts and the hand jack. A. Uh-huh. 8 Q. The end result of all of these mechanisms 9 is to move something, correct? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. And again assuming I'm not using a narrow 12 hallway, I could accomplish the same task from a 13 forklift? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Is there any prohibition that stops Ricky 16 Shaw from doing whatever he needed to do to move 17 an item? 18 19 A. No. Q. Is there any prohibition that would stop 20 Ricky Shaw to use whatever method he could to do 21 the items that are assigned duties on this lift? 22 A. No. 23 Q. You talked about there was concern about 24 25 Ricky seriously hurting himself.

A. Yes. 1 Q. Did anyone ever report an incident to you 2 where Ricky was in danger of seriously hurting 3 himself? 4 A. Other than I believe he hit a pallet rack a 5 time or two. 6 7 Q. And that happens on a regular basis, right? A. Yes. 8 Q. Did you ever see anything where Ricky was 9 in danger of seriously injuring himself? 10 A. No. 11 MR. RUSSO: I have nothing further, Your 12 Honor. 13 THE COURT: Anything further? 14 RECROSS BY MS. SALTZ: 15 Q. I do, Your Honor. Mr. Whitmire, is it your 16 testimony that in performing the duties of a 17 warehouse worker in Warehouse B that Mr. Shaw 18 would rarely have to walk, stand, squat, lift, 19 and carry? 20 A. No, he could do all of them things. 2.1 Q. He would have to do all those things, so 22 the fact that counsel said couldn't he use a 23 forklift to do this and couldn't he use that --24 25 A. He could use a forklift to lift it on the

```
He'd still have to push the cart, walk
     cart.
1
     with the cart, and take it off the cart. I just
2
     answered his question.
3
       Q. Understood. I just wanted to make sure
 4
     that you weren't saying that that job could be
5
     done completely sitting down?
6
7
       A. No, it cannot.
          MS. SALTZ: That's all I have, thank you.
8
          MR. RUSSO: Nothing else, Your Honor.
9
          THE COURT: And I have no questions.
10
     You may step down. Thank you very much,
11
     Mr. Whitmire.
12
          THE WITNESS: Thank you.
13
          THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, let's take
14
     our afternoon break at this time. Please recall
15
     my instructions that you refrain from any
16
     conversations among yourselves about what you
17
     have seen and heard so far in the courtroom.
18
     You will have an opportunity to do that, but not
19
     until final deliberation. We'll take a
20
2.1
     15-minute break, let's reconvene at ten after
     3:00 and we'll continue with the plaintiff's
22
     case in chief. Ms. McKinney, you may escort the
23
     jury. We're in recess until 3:10.
24
25
          (Recess taken from 2:53 to 3:14 p.m.)
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THE COURT: I understand from Ms. McKinney 1 that counsel had some scheduling matters that 2 you wanted to address or --3 MR. CROCENZI: No, just a preliminary 4 procedure issue, Your Honor. I have Joseph 5 Sembrot from my office who will read the part of 6 7 Mr. Kline in the deposition transcript. We just wanted to find out how we wanted to indicate 8 that on the record. 9 THE COURT: I'm happy to advise the jury as 10 to the fact that he'll simply be reading the 11 matter, reading the role of Mr. Kline for the 12 13 record. 14 MR. CROCENZI: Okay. MR. RUSSO: We do, Your Honor, it seems as 15 though we have to read Mr. Kline's testimony 16 into the record, which we expect to take an 17 hour, we would be calling Mr. Kline next --18 Mr. Sheldon, I'm sorry, after the deposition, 19 and Mr. Sheldon was released. So we either are 20 21 looking at on a break are going to be forced to take our witnesses out of order. 22 MR. CROCENZI: Have him come back? He's 23 only in Carlisle. 24 25 THE COURT: Who released him?

MS. SALTZ: Well, the problem is, Your Honor 1 when counsel gave the line-up of their 2 witnesses, they indicated Mr. Hoffman, 3 Mr. Whitmire, Ms. Hoffman, and then the Kline 4 deposition, which would have taken up the entire 5 afternoon, followed by Mr. Sheldon tomorrow 6 7 morning, followed by Mr. Shaw, then they have Mr. Kearn, and then followed by Dr. Walker. 8 That was the line-up that was given this 9 10 morning. So based on that line-up we weren't getting to Mr. Sheldon today, and now I'm being 11 told that that was, they misspoke but 12 unfortunately didn't tell me that they had 13 14 misspoken or clarified it with me, and then switched the order of Ms. Hoffman and Mr. Kline. 15 THE COURT: All right. Well, he's been 16 released. The bottom line is you shouldn't have 17 released him until we could have confirmed what 18 the schedule was, but he's no longer here. 19 he be recalled? Let's just him called on his 20 21 cell phone and bring him back so we can get that in. 22 MR. CROCENZI: Carlisle is only a half hour 23 24 away. 25 THE COURT: If this is going to take an hour

we'll get him here and we'll still be able to 1 accomplish this. 2 MS. SALTZ: I don't have a problem, Your 3 Honor. The only thing I ask is that as long as 4 I know what's, you know, if that's the way we're 5 going then I'm assuming we're going to begin 6 with Ms. Hoffman tomorrow morning. 7 MR. CROCENZI: Yes, that's fine. That's 8 correct. 9 MS. SALTZ: And then followed by Mr. Shaw, 10 Mr. Kearn, and then Dr. Walker. 11 MR. RUSSO: Dr. Walker. 12 MR. CROCENZI: We have Brenda -- wait, let's 13 make sure we have this right. 14 THE COURT: Well, let's go off the record 15 for this, Wes. 16 (Discussion held off the record.) 17 THE COURT: While we were off the record we 18 discussed the reading of Mr. Kline's deposition 19 transcript. It's my understanding that counsel 20 21 have agreed that the entire transcript can be read into the record and that that will, and 22 that any objections that were raised on the 23 transcript can be withdrawn. Is that an 24 25 accurate statement of your understanding?

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MR. CROCENZI: Yes, Your Honor.
1
          MS. SALTZ: Yes, Your Honor.
2
          THE COURT: And so when you get to the
3
     portion where objections have been raised you're
4
     simply going to skip over those objections, is
5
     that correct?
6
7
          MR. CROCENZI: No, we're going to read that
     part of the testimony.
8
          THE COURT: Oh, you're going to also read
9
     the objections?
10
          MS. SALTZ: No, no objections. Just the
11
     portion of the testimony that at one point was
12
13
     objected to that.
          THE COURT: Oh, all right.
14
          MS. SALTZ: So that will be read through
15
     cleanly then.
16
          THE COURT: All right. Essentially the
17
     objections will be extricated from the reading.
18
          MS. SALTZ: That is correct.
19
          THE COURT: All right. Very good.
20
21
          MR. CROCENZI: And I need to provide a
     cleaner copy of the transcript for an exhibit
22
     because right now we do have portions that are
23
     marked "need ruling". Obviously now that the
24
25
     objections have been withdrawn we can submit a
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clean copy tomorrow. 1 THE COURT: All right. That would be fine. 2 Are you ready for the jury? 3 MR. RUSSO: Your Honor, Plaintiff's Exhibits 4 3 and 5 were admitted, published through ELMO. 5 We'd like to publish hard copies to the jury. 6 7 How would you like us to go about that given that ELMO didn't lend itself to a three-page 8 document? 9 THE COURT: Well, if you were going to 10 publish them, Mr. Russo, you should have done it 11 while the witness was on the stand. 12 MR. RUSSO: Okay. 13 THE COURT: I don't want you to publish them 14 without a question pending or a witness on the 15 stand. 16 MR. RUSSO: We can publish them again with 17 Mr. Kline's testimony. They're all exhibits in 18 his deposition anyway. 19 THE COURT: Very well. Any objection? 20 MS. SALTZ: No objection, Your Honor. 21 THE COURT: All right. Ms. McKinney, would 22 you escort the jury? And, Ms. McKinney, do you 23 have those exhibits as being admitted? 24 25 COURTROOM DEPUTY: I do not. I have them as

introduced. 1 THE COURT: Yes, I have them as introduced 2 but not as admitted. 3 MR. RUSSO: Okay. Well, no, we didn't move 4 for any admissions. 5 THE COURT: Yes, I don't think any of the 6 7 exhibits have been admitted yet, and if you intend to do that and use them in Mr. Kline's 8 deposition, then let's do it before we put 9 Mr. Sembrot on the stand. Okay? 10 MR. RUSSO: Yes. 11 (Brief pause.) 12 (Jury seated at 3:23 p.m.) 13 THE COURT: Please be seated. Ladies and 14 gentlemen, counsel and I met briefly after the 15 break and we are now going to proceed with the 16 reading of a deposition transcript. I think I 17 mentioned this in my preliminary instructions, 18 but this is for Mr. Kline, who is deceased, and 19 his testimony will be read into the record, and 20 2.1 the individual who is reading Mr. Kline's part of the deposition transcript, we'll put him on 22 the witness stand, is Mr. Sembrot, he is with 23 Mr. Crocenzi's office, and he'll simply take the 24 25 witness stand and read those answers that were

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given by Mr. Kline during the deposition when it
1
     was taking place, and what is the date of the
2
     deposition?
3
          MR. CROCENZI: January 12th, 2010.
4
          THE COURT: All right. January 12th, 2010.
5
     As I said to you previously, it is sworn
6
7
     testimony and you can accept it in the same
     manner and fashion with which you would accept
8
     testimony if it were being given live in the
9
     courtroom. Mr. Sembrot, if you would like to
10
     step forward?
11
          MR. CROCENZI: Your Honor, would you like a
12
     copy of the transcript?
13
          THE COURT: No, that's not necessary, and
14
     it's not necessary that Mr. Sembrot be sworn in.
15
     Mr. Crocenzi, you may proceed.
16
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you.
17
          (The deposition of Tim Kline was read into
18
     the record beginning at 3:26 p.m.)
19
          MR. CROCENZI: Your Honor, at this time we'd
20
     like to publish plaintiff's exhibits?
21
          THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, various
22
     exhibits were introduced during the course of
23
     this deposition. We would like to show them to
24
25
     you so you're able to put the testimony in
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context as it relates to the various exhibits,
1
     and we've already discussed this with defense
2
     counsel, Ms. Saltz has no objection, so you may
3
     publish.
 4
          MR. CROCENZI: Your Honor, may I approach
5
     the jury? I do have only two copies.
6
          THE COURT: That would be fine.
7
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you.
8
          THE COURT: Yes, ladies and gentlemen, if
9
     you would please review them individually and
10
     pass them along, we're just going to take a
11
     break while you do this so that you're not
12
     distracted from the deposition testimony as it
13
     is being given. I think for the record we
14
     should have a motion for their admission,
15
     Mr. Crocenzi.
16
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you. I'll move for the
17
     admission of P-1 at this time, Your Honor.
18
          THE COURT: Both documents?
19
          MR. CROCENZI: Right. Well, they're one and
20
21
     the same.
          THE COURT: That's right. Any objection,
22
     Ms. Saltz?
23
          MS. SALTZ: No objection.
24
25
          THE COURT: All right. It is admitted.
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(Brief pause.)
1
          (Deposition continued at 3:38 p.m.)
2
          MR. CROCENZI: Again I would like to publish
3
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 2, please.
4
          THE COURT: Any objection?
5
          MS. SALTZ: No objection.
6
          THE COURT: Would you move for its admission
7
     as well?
8
          MR. CROCENZI: Yes, I would move for
9
     admission of Plaintiff's Exhibit 2.
10
          THE COURT: Any objection?
11
          MS. SALTZ: No, Your Honor. In fact I
12
     believe there's two other performance
13
     evaluations that --
14
          THE COURT: Move them all in?
15
          MS. SALTZ: Move them all in. We have no
16
     objections to any of the performance
17
     evaluations.
18
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you. I move for the
19
     admission of P-1 through P-5, which are the
20
     performance evaluations.
21
          THE COURT: All right. They are all
22
     admitted without objection.
23
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you.
24
25
          THE COURT: To speed things along why don't
```

```
we after the first person gets through with 2004
1
     we can move through --
2
          MR. CROCENZI: Sure.
3
          THE COURT: Or is that 2003?
 4
          JUROR: 2004.
5
          THE COURT: 2004? Then we'll do 2005, and
6
7
     you can read through that portion of the
     transcript after we get through all of the
8
     exhibits.
9
          (Brief pause.)
10
          MR. CROCENZI: I'm showing the jury P-3.
11
          (Brief pause.)
12
          MR. CROCENZI: P-4.
13
          (Brief pause.)
14
          MR. CROCENZI: And P-5.
15
          THE COURT: And, ladies and gentleman, these
16
     exhibits will be made available to you during
17
     the time of final deliberations, so it's
18
     probably not necessary that you make notes
19
     regarding them.
20
21
          (Brief pause.)
          THE COURT: All right, Mr. Crocenzi, I
22
     believe the jury has finished their review of
23
     these exhibits. You may continue.
24
25
          (Reading of the deposition of Tim Kline
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continued at 3:48 p.m.)
1
          MR. CROCENZI: That's it.
2
          THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.
3
          MR. CROCENZI: I call Bryan Sheldon.
 4
          MS. SALTZ: He's here.
5
          THE COURT: All right. Good afternoon,
6
7
     Mr. Sheldon. If you would please step forward,
     and the courtroom deputy will administer the
8
     oath.
9
          (Bryan Sheldon was called to testify and
10
     was sworn by the courtroom deputy.)
11
          COURTROOM DEPUTY: Please be seated and
12
     state your full name for the record.
13
          THE WITNESS: Bryan, B-R-Y-A-N, Sheldon.
14
     S-E-H-L-D-O-N.
15
          MR. CROCENZI: You'll have to give me a
16
     second after all that reading, Your Honor.
17
          (Brief pause.)
18
          DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. CROCENZI:
19
       Q. Thank you. Good afternoon, Mr. Sheldon.
20
       A. Good afternoon.
2.1
       Q. You are the corporate controller for
22
     Cumberland Truck Equipment Company, is that
23
     correct?
24
25
       A. I am.
```

- Q. How long have you served in that position? 1 A. Sixteen and a half years. 2 Q. Now, Cumberland Truck Equipment Company 3 sells truck parts, is that correct? 4 A. As well as heavy duty trucks and service 5 work on heavy duty trucks. 6 O. In 2007 Cumberland Truck had over two 7 hundred employees all of its combined 8 operations, is that right? 9 A. That's correct. 10 Q. And you are engaged in business that takes 11 you across state lines, either you receive 12 product from other states or you're shipping 13 product out to other states? 14 A. Also correct. 15 Q. Part of your job duties in `07 as the 16 corporate controller, you supervised the human 17 resources department, is that correct? 18 19 A. Yes. Q. Now, Brenda Hoffman was the director of 20 human resources in 2007, is that right? 2.1 A. Correct. 22 Q. You reported directly to the owners? 2.3

Q. I want to ask you just a few questions here

A. I did.

24

at the beginning concerning pay raises to 1 employees at Cumberland Truck, and pay raises 2 were given in general in 2007 of about 3.2 3 percent, is that right? 4 A. I wouldn't know the exact percentage, but 5 it sounds reasonable. 6 7 Q. In 2008 there was another pay raise in general of about 3 percent? 8 A. Okay. 9 Q. Does that sound about right? 10 A. Yes, it certainly would. 11 Q. Cumberland Truck also had a 401-K matching 12 program in place in 2007? 13 A. That is correct. 14 Q. And do they continue to have that program 15 in place up to the present day? 16 A. We do. 17 Q. Can you explain to the jury how that 18 matching program works? 19 A. Certainly. It is of any employee who 20 2.1 decides to contribute to the 401-K program, we match fifty cents on each dollar contribution up 22 to 6 percent of their salary or wages. 2.3 Therefore if somebody contributes 3 percent, we 24 25 would contribute a percent and a half. Ιf

somebody contributes 6 percent, we would 1 contribute 3 percent. 2 Q. Has that percentage changed at all from 3 2007? 4 A. No, it has not. 5 Q. You didn't supersize the warehouse 6 operations in Carlisle? 7 A. No. 8 Q. You didn't work with Ricky Shaw in 9 Warehouse B at the Carlisle location? 10 A. I worked in the Carlisle location, but I 11 did not work directly with Mr. Shaw. 12 Q. You were located in the corporate office 13 where Chuck Hoffman's office was located? 14 A. That's correct. 15 Q. Now, on occasion you would come over to 16 Warehouse B maybe once a week for a few minutes 17 to check on something or get information about 18 something, is that right? 19 A. That's correct. I had the responsibility 20 2.1 of overseeing our warranty department, and our warranty department is located in Warehouse B. 22 Q. Now, during the time you came over for a 23 few minutes about once a week did you always see 24 25 Ricky Shaw doing his job at the warehouse?

- A. No, not always.
 - Q. I want to turn your attention to February of 2007. Did you have a meeting with Chuck Hoffman and Pat Whitmire concerning Ricky Shaw's employment with the company?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

2.3

- Q. And during that meeting isn't it true that Chuck Hoffman told you that he observed

 Mr. Hoffman struggling to walk across a parking lot?
- A. It was either Chuck or Pat that brought it to my attention. I'm not positive which one.
- Q. And isn't it true that Chuck Hoffman told you that he observed Ricky using a cane when he saw him walking across the parking lot?
 - A. That is what was discussed, yes.
- Q. After hearing this information from Chuck Hoffman or Pat Whitmire did you form an impression that Ricky was going to have difficulty performing his job?
- A. I wasn't sure what Ricky was dealing with, but it would seem to me that somebody who was using a cane to traverse a parking lot would certainly have trouble carrying objects in our warehouse, yes.

Q. And you were concerned that Ricky was a 1 danger to himself or others in the warehouse? 2 A. Well, that's certainly a possibility. 3 Q. Did you also have a conversation with Tim 4 Kline about that time? 5 A. Not immediately, no. 6 7 Q. Did Mr. Kline report to you anything about Ricky using a cane to operate a forklift? 8 A. Not at that time. 9 Q. When did he mention that to you? 10 A. It's my recollection that Mr. Kline 11 mentioned that to me after Ricky was put on 12 medical leave. 13 Q. So after the February 26th, `07 examination 14 at Concentra? 15 A. Yes, after that examination. 16 Q. And it's your testimony that Mr. Kline came 17 to you after that examination and said that 18 Ricky was using a cane to operate a forklift? 19 A. That is my recollection, yes. 20 Q. Prior to these meetings in February 2007 2.1 with Pat, the meeting with Pat Whitmire and 22 Chuck Hoffman, had you received any complaints 2.3 of Ricky's job performance? 24 25 A. Me personally?

- Q. Yes. 1 A. No. 2 Q. Did you receive any reports about Ricky 3 dropping items in the warehouse? 4 A. We have in our personnel file which I 5 oversee obviously we have some incident reports 6 7 that have reported that, but they weren't brought to me, you know, to my attention and 8 said Ricky is doing a bad job or anything like 9 10 that. Q. Isn't it true that the incidents that you 11 are referring to were items where Ricky had an 12 accident with the forklift? 13 A. I believe that's one of them. I mean, I 14 don't recall those, they really didn't factor 15 into any of the decision making that we made. 16 Q. Fair enough. Isn't it true that other 17 employees in the warehouse have had accidents 18 involving a forklift? 19 A. Absolutely, yes. 20 2.1 Q. Did any employee report to you by February 2007 that Ricky was having difficulty lifting 22 anything? 2.3 A. No. 24 25 Q. Anybody report any incidents that Ricky was
 - U.S. District Court, Middle District of PA

a danger to himself while working in the 1 warehouse? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Any reports that Ricky was a danger to 4 somebody else in the warehouse? 5 A. No. 6 7 Q. In fact you thought highly of Ricky, you thought he was an exemplary employee? 8 A. I did. 9 Q. He actually had better knowledge than Tim 10 Kline about how that warehouse should be 11 operated? 12 A. That's correct. 13 O. He was efficient? 14 15 A. Yes. Q. A valuable employee of Cumberland Truck? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Now, after your meeting with Chuck Hoffman 18 and Pat Whitmire you made a decision to send 19 Ricky for a physical examination, is that right? 20 A. That's correct. 2.1 Q. Now, prior to making the decision to send 22 Ricky to Concentra Medical Center did you meet 23 with Ricky to discuss your concerns? 24 25 A. I did not meet with Ricky, no.

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O. Did you discuss with Ricky any -- well, let
1
     me strike that. Let me talk first about
2
     Concentra Medical Center. Cumberland Truck has
3
     a relationship with Concentra Medical Center
 4
     where you send employees or prospective
5
     employees to them for pre-employment physicals,
6
7
     is that right?
       A. That's correct.
8
       Q. Do you also send employees to Concentra if
9
     they're injured on the job? Concentra is part
10
     of your panel physician where they, the employee
11
     needs to treat with Concentra?
12
       A. That is also correct.
13
       Q. Do you also send employees to Concentra for
14
     drug and alcohol screenings?
15
       A. Yes, we do.
16
       Q. Now, how long have you had this type of
17
     relationship with Concentra?
18
       A. Honestly I don't know when Concentra, but
19
     it's been for several years. Obviously we still
20
     use them, so it's been a long-term relationship.
2.1
       Q. I'm going to show you what has been
22
     identified as Exhibit 9, Plaintiff's Exhibit 9.
23
       A. Okay.
24
25
          (Brief pause.)
```

Q. Have you had a chance to look at that? 1 A. Uh-huh. 2 Q. Okay. This is the form that was sent with 3 Mr. Shaw when he went for the physical 4 examination at Concentra on February 26th, 2007, 5 is that right? 6 A. This is the completed form that was 7 returned actually. 8 Q. Okay. 9 A. Not -- the form was blank when it was Sent 10 except for the first section was filled out. 11 Q. Okay. Other than the handwriting that 12 somebody at Concentra put on there, that was the 13 form that was sent? 14 A. That looks like it, yes. 15 Q. Okay. Now, this form was developed in 2003 16 or 2004 as part of an unrelated worker's 17 compensation case, is that right? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Your worker's compensation carrier was 20 21 involved in helping to draft that document for Cumberland Truck, is that right? 22 A. Well, no, they didn't help to draft the 23 document for Cumberland. When we were dealing 24

with a worker's comp issue a form similar to

this one came to us from the worker's comp company to be filled out for an evaluation of that particular injury. We then modified the form and adopted it and used it for a cases like these for when we sent somebody for a job analysis or evaluation.

Q. Looking at the physical requirements which

- Q. Looking at the physical requirements which start on page 1 and continue through page 2 of the document?
 - A. Uh-huh.

2.1

- Q. Did you provide any input into the physical requirements listed on this job --
- A. No, sir.
 - Q. -- description? Do you know who did?
 - A. It would have been developed by our parts department headed up by Chuck Hoffman.
 - Q. To the best of your knowledge did anybody at Concentra solicit the input from any of the warehouse workers about the physical requirements listed on this job analysis form?
 - A. I'm sorry?
 - Q. Sure, I can repeat that again. To the best of your knowledge did anybody at Cumberland Truck ask the employees in the warehouse for their input on the physical requirements for the

job which should be listed on this job analysis? 1 A. Ask our general staff for the knowledge? 2 Q. Yes. 3 A. Or for their input on this? 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I wouldn't know, but I don't believe so. 6 7 Q. Did you ever, did anybody at Cumberland Truck consult Ricky Shaw about what should be 8 included on the physical requirements of this 9 job analysis form? 10 A. No, sir, I don't believe so. Not to the 11 best of my knowledge. 12 Q. Do you know whether anybody at Cumberland 13 Truck gave the completed job analysis form when 14 you're done modifying it, did they ever give it 15 to Ricky Shaw? 16 A. No, sir. 17 Q. Did they give it to any warehouse worker? 18 A. Not prior to him being involved in the 19 evaluation. 20 O. Yes. 21 A. Okay. 22 Q. So prior to February 26th, `07 it's your 23 testimony that Ricky Shaw did not receive this 24 25 job analysis form?

A. That's correct.

- Q. And it's your testimony also that no other warehouse worker received the completed job analysis form?
- A. Well, this would be part of physical exams, so it wasn't developed for Ricky's case. It was developed prior to that. So I would feel certain that this form was seen by other warehouse employees along the way prior to Ricky receiving the form.
- Q. If they had to get some kind of medical evaluation?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. But in general it's not included in any kind of employment packet or personnel manual that the employee gets upon hire?
- A. No.
- Q. Okay. Did you direct Brenda Hoffman to

 tell Mr. Shaw on February 26th, 2007 that he had

 to go to Concentra Medical Center for the

 evaluation?
- A. I don't know the exact date, but yes, that
 was part of this event process.
 - Q. Okay. So the chain of command was that you made the decision, then you instructed your

subordinate Mrs. Hoffman to then instruct Ricky 1 to go for the exam? 2 A. That is correct. 3 Q. Okay. Did you meet with Ricky at some 4 point after he returned from the Concentra 5 medical examination on February 26th? 6 A. I don't believe that I met with Ricky until 7 sometime after that. I did not go over the 8 evaluation with Ricky, or I don't remember going 9 over the evaluation with Ricky immediately when 10 he came back. 11 Q. Would it be correct that you met with Ricky 12 two days later on February 28th, 2007? 13 A. I know that I met with Ricky the date that 14 he came in to work to start work after we had 15 put him on medical leave, yes. 16 Q. Did you give Brenda Hoffman any 17 instructions after Ricky went to the Concentra 18 medical examination? 19 A. How so? 20 Q. Well, how did you get the report from 21 Concentra Medical Center after the physical 22 examination? 2.3 A. I received a report I believe from Brenda 24 Hoffman. 25

Q. Okay. So when you said that you, the 1 company put Ricky on medical leave, isn't it 2 true that you instructed Brenda Hoffman to offer 3 Ricky family medical leave? 4 A. Absolutely. 5 Q. And you also instructed her that Ricky 6 7 should, needs to apply for short-term disability benefits? 8 A. That would be my recommendation, yes. 9 I can't force him to ask for short-term 10 disability. 11 Q. Two days later you said Ricky then came 12 back to work? 13 A. He came in and clocked in and started 14 working in Warehouse B, yes. 15 Q. Do you know how long he worked before you 16 stopped him from working? 17 A. Honestly I don't. I don't think he was 18 working more than about a half an hour. 19 Q. Isn't it true that Ricky was upset that 20 2.1 Cumberland Truck was no longer allowing him to work in Warehouse B? 22 A. Absolutely, that's true. 2.3 Q. And isn't it true that Ricky during that 24 25 meeting told you he was physically able to do

his job as a warehouse worker? 1 A. Yes, Ricky's opinion was that he was able 2 to do the job. 3 Q. And isn't it true that during that meeting 4 Ricky told you that why are you bringing this 5 issue up now when he had been working for years 6 at Cumberland Truck? 7 A. It is true he asked that question. 8 Q. Did he also tell you that by not allowing 9 him to work he feared that his physical 10 condition would get worse? 11 A. Also true. 12 Q. He also told you during this meeting that 13 because of his eating habits and his activities 14 that if he had a sedentary lifestyle, by not 15 working his condition would get worse? 16 A. Well, that's a choice. Yes, sir. 17 Q. And you in fact were surprised by Ricky's 18 reaction that he wanted to continue working at 19 Cumberland Truck instead of taking the 20 2.1 short-term disability? A. Yes, sir, quite surprised. 22 MR. CROCENZI: That's all I have. 23 24 you. 25 THE COURT: Ms. Saltz, any examination?

MS. SALTZ: Yes, Your Honor, thank you. 1 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MS. SALTZ: 2 Q. Let's pick up that last question. Why were 3 you surprised? 4 A. Well, I was surprised because I had 5 personally observed Ricky trying to traverse a 6 7 parking lot and having great physical difficulty and apparent pain in doing so. When he's 8 offered a company paid short-term disability 9 policy to improve health and well-being, I was 10 quite surprised that he didn't take advantage or 11 didn't want to take advantage of that program. 12 Q. And I believe, Mr. Sheldon, you testified 13 that you cannot force an employee to go out on 14 disability. 15 A. No. 16 Q. And that's a benefit that's offered by the 17 18 company? A. That is a benefit, yes, it is a company 19 paid benefit we provide for all of our 20 employees. 2.1 Q. I'm going to take you back to the beginning 22 of the situation, start filling in some blanks 23 without just a yes or no. 24 25 A. Okay.

Q. Could you explain to the jury how you came 1 -- well, let me strike that. Let me ask this 2 question first. Did you yourself observe 3 Mr. Shaw having difficulty? 4 A. After I had the conversation with Pat and 5 Chuck I did pay attention when I saw Ricky 6 7 working as to how he moved about and utilized his cane on our property, yes. 8 Q. Okay, and then once Mr. Hoffman and 9 Mr. Whitmire came to you, Mr. Hoffman told you 10 what he saw, then you started observing 11 vourself? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Can you explain to the jury the process 14 after that point. What did you -- I take it you 15 took the lead on going forward in trying to 16 decide how to handle the situation? 17 A. Right. This is an unusual circumstance. 18 I mean, we have an employee who's been a 19 long-term employee, a respected member of our 20 organization, and he's obviously having physical 21 difficulties. At that point how do you deal 22 with that? You know, he's -- it's not something 23 that happened immediate and we weren't sure what 24

he was dealing with. I mean is he dealing a

bout of gout or is he dealing with something more serious? There are lots of rules out there, HIPAA and FMLA and all kinds of medical rules, and even the owners of our company are not allowed to have employee medical records at this date, you know, you can't discriminate against anybody based on medical records and so on. So that information is held very tightly and it's very secretive in today's employment process.

- Q. Let me stop you right there and then I'll let you continue. At any time prior to Mr. Hoffman coming to you with Mr. Whitmire did Ricky ever come to you, Mr. Shaw come to you and disclose to you that he had some kind of medical issue or condition?
- A. Only when he was originally hired and he was involved in a worker's comp incident, I believe it was in 2000, where a brake drum I believe struck his shin, I'm not sure if it was right or left, and he had to have some time off work for that particular incident, and then he came back under some restricted duties for a little while and eventually he was released to full duties.

Q. Did he come back with a release from a 1 physician saying that he could come back to work 2 with restrictions? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. And did you accommodate those restrictions 5 based on the doctor telling you what those 6 restrictions had to be? 7 A. Yes, we did. 8 Q. And then you worked with him to get him to 9 full duty? 10 11 A. Yes. Q. And he did get there at some point? 12 A. Yes. 13 O. So other than that as he moved closer to 14 the end of 2006/2007, were you aware of any 15 other medical conditions that Mr. Shaw had? 16 17 A. No. Q. Now, at any time did he ever ask for any 18 accommodations, putting aside the worker's comp 19 injury? 20 2.1 A. No. Q. And you explained that after you now you 22 had your own observation, Mr. Hoffman and 23 Mr. Whitmire came to you, what did you do next? 24 25 A. What we did was we decided to send --

actually we consulted our attorney. We have a 1 group of attorneys here in Harrisburg that we 2 consult with when we get into issues that we 3 don't know exactly how to handle. So frankly 4 Brenda and I called the attorney and explained 5 the situation and got --6 THE COURT: Hold on. Hold on. 7 MR. CROCENZI: I'm going to object at this 8 point, Your Honor. 9 Q. Don't tell us what the attorney said. 10 A. Right, I understand, but we got his opinion 11 on the matter. 12 13 MS. SALTZ: Okay. MR. CROCENZI: Well, Your Honor, I'm even 14 going to object to any of that testimony. 15 MS. SALTZ: I'm moving away from that, Your 16 17 Honor. 18 THE COURT: Okay. MR. CROCENZI: And the reason is because 19 throughout this case and in Mr. Shaw's 20 2.1 deposition the defense asserted the attorney client privilege, and so therefore they can't 22 rely now upon advice of counsel to exonerate 23 themselves. 24 THE COURT: All right. Very well. We're 25

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going to move on.
1
          BY MS. SALTZ:
2
       Q. We're going to move on.
3
       A. Okay.
4
       Q. Now, did you meet with Brenda to discuss
5
     the situation with her?
6
7
       A. Right.
       Q. Okay.
8
       A. I met with Brenda.
9
       Q. I mean Ms. Hoffman.
10
11
       A. Right.
       Q. The two of you decided to send Mr. Shaw for
12
     an exam?
13
       A. That's correct.
14
       Q. Now, Concentra is the, is an independent
15
     facility?
16
       A. Concentra is an independent facility.
17
       Q. It's not owned by Cumberland?
18
       A. No.
               We don't own them. We don't invest in
19
     them. We don't have any shares or any stocks or
20
21
     anything but a relationship where we utilize
     them for medical reasons.
22
       Q. Okay, and at the time that Mr. Shaw was
23
     sent did you have any knowledge, perception,
24
25
     idea as to whether or not he would be able to do
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his job? 1 A. I mean, I observed him using a cane to 2 walk. So I had some idea that he was dealing 3 with a medical issue or he wouldn't have gone. 4 Aside from that I didn't know what he was 5 dealing with. I had no indication of whether he 6 7 was dealing with a temporary situation or a permanent one. 8 Q. Did you have any idea as to whether or not 9 he'd be able to come back to work after that 10 exam? 11 A. No, I did not. 12 Q. Now, after his examination I believe you 13 testified that it was Ms. Hoffman that reported 14 to you what the results were? 15 A. That's correct. 16 Q. Did you ever see the actual report itself? 17 A. This job analysis report? Yes. 18 Q. As completed by Concentra? Don't tell me 19 what's on it. 20 A. That's correct. 2.1 Q. As completed by Concentra? 22 A. That is correct. 2.3 Q. What happened next? 24 25 A. Well, we decided that based upon what was

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on the evaluation that Mr. Shaw was not able to
1
     perform the job duties that he had been assigned
2
     to do, and I instructed Brenda to put him on
3
     medical leave until he was able to come back
 4
     with restrictions or else-wise.
5
       Q. Now, have you, has Cumberland ever put
6
7
     other employees on medical leave?
       A. No, not to the best of my knowledge.
8
     mean, other than if somebody came to us first,
9
     you know, and said, "I have a particular
10
     difficulty and, you know, I need to have
11
     restrictions or, you know, I need to have
12
     accommodations," but this is the reverse effect,
13
     you know. We initiated the process. In every
14
     other case I've ever dealt with the employee has
15
     initiated the process.
16
       Q. So it was unusual in that regard?
17
       A. Very unusual.
18
       Q. Okay. So now when Mr. Shaw was placed on
19
     medical leave he still had a job?
20
       A. Yes, absolutely.
21
       O. And what was Cumberland's intent?
22
       A. To get him back as quickly as possible
23
     because he was a --
24
25
       Q. Because he was a good employee?
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A. Yes. 1 Q. And Cumberland tries to keep good 2 employees? 3 A. They're hard to find. 4 Q. Now, you testified that a couple of days 5 later he came back on his own to work. 6 told he was on medical leave. 7 A. Uh-huh. 8 Q. And to take that time to deal with whatever 9 the situation was. 10 A. That's correct. 11 Q. Now, at that time did you know what the 12 problem was? 13 A. No. 14 O. You still did not know? 15 A. No, I did not know. 16 Q. You didn't know whether it was temporary or 17 how long it would take to resolve or when he 18 could come back? 19 A. I did not know. 20 Q. So a couple of days later he comes back and 2.1 clocks in, you didn't even know he's clocking 22 in? 23 A. That's correct. 24

U.S. District Court, Middle District of PA

Q. What happened after you discovered that he

had clocked in to work?

2.1

- A. I asked I believe it was Brenda, but I asked somebody other than myself to bring him over to the conference room so we could sit down and talk about it, but we needed to stop him from working as he was on medical leave.
- Q. Before we get to that conversation, what were you -- let me strike that and ask it this way. Did you have concerns as to why he could not continue working in the warehouse?
 - A. What do you mean concerns?
- Q. Based on his, based on the report back from Concentra why you would not let him work in that warehouse.
- A. Based upon the report he was not able to perform the duties as assigned, and frankly based upon the report I felt as though he could either injure himself or injure a coworker.
- Q. Did you meet with Mr. Shaw after he was told to stop working?
 - A. I did.
 - Q. Was it just you and him in that room?
- A. I believe it was him, myself, and Brenda,

 Ms. Hoffman.
 - Q. Here you're free to say what Mr. Shaw says.

Tell the jury the conversation as it unfolded between you and Mr. Shaw.

- A. Obviously Mr. Shaw was quite upset that he was pulled off the job and he expressed to me that it would be my fault, Cumberland's fault, if he continued to get worse medically, physically, because the only exercise he got was the exercise that he performed while he was working in our warehouse, that he lived a sedentary lifestyle outside of our warehouse, and he enjoyed food and the fact of the matter was that he was only going to get worse if he weren't able to continue to work at our facility during the day.
- Q. And how did you respond to that?
- A. I said, "Ricky, it's your choice, you know, your lifestyle outside of Cumberland is a choice, but we can't have you working inside the warehouse in, with the current restrictions or the performance problems that we have here," performance being the inability to move around physically.
 - Q. Did he ever ask for any accommodations?
- A. No.

Q. Did he ever suggest anything to you --

A. Not.

2.1

- Q. -- at this, at this conversation as to how he could do his job?
- A. No. He said that he felt as though he was doing his job and that we were being ridiculous for taking him off work.
- Q. Did he discuss with you anything with regard to or did you bring up to him what the doctor said?
 - A. We had his copy of the evaluation, yes.
- Q. And did he disagree with that?
- A. To some extent yes, but not -- he admitted, wholeheartedly he admitted that he had problems with mobility and that his mobility would only continue to get worse if he weren't able to work in the warehouse.
- Q. Did you at any time discuss with him having his own doctor examine him or another doctor examine him?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Tell the jury about that.
- A. As part of this conversation I offered to reevaluate Ricky at any point where he thought he would be able to pass the physical exam enough to even give us restrictions that we

could work within. I offered to allow him to work with Concentra and his own physician, because at that point he expressed that his own physician he felt would give him a clean bill of health, okay, and to pick another doctor if they needed, you know, if he felt it was necessary to go to an independent docker doctor that both parties could agree upon, not just somebody, you know, not his own physician, but somebody independent of Concentra and his own physician if he felt that would be necessary to get the job done, you know, to get a restriction that we could work within or a clean bill of health.

Q. Did he ever do that?

- A. He did take us up on getting a follow-up physical exam, and I'm not sure if that was with Concentra or with somebody else, and I believe that was several months after this meeting, but not immediately, no.
- Q. Did you talk to him also, did you and he ever discuss about the physical requirements?

 There's been a lot of testimony in the case as to what the physical requirements are of that job. Did you discuss with him what those physical requirements were?

A. No, not specifically, not in detail.

- Q. Did you talk with him about modifying those if he felt they weren't accurate in any way?
- A. I offered that if he felt that those, that these things were, you know, prohibitive or that they were unreasonable, that we would certainly look at each one individually and -- but he didn't say that any one particular requirement on the sheet was of, you know, concern. He just simply thought that the whole sheet was not just for what he was doing in the warehouse.
- Q. Did he give, offer you anything in terms of why it wasn't just anything specific in terms of what --
- A. No, he didn't, he didn't pick out any particular one, and I did offer to go through them and modify them with not just simply because that was what Ricky's opinion was, but modify them in a group setting with everybody and we could agree upon different terms if these weren't the accurate ones. I mean, I wasn't involved in doing this evaluation, but I could get the parties together and have the authority to get the parties together to openly discuss every one of the details.

- Case 1:09-cv-00359-CCC Document 100-8 Filed 08/01/11 Page 174 of 217 Q. Did you talk to him about other possible 1 employment within Cumberland? 2 A. Not at this point. 3 Q. That was a --4 A. But that was a, that was a separate meeting 5 later, yes. 6 7 Q. So after this meeting where you had -- how did you leave it? How was the meeting finally 8 left? 9 A. Well, we didn't part, he was not very happy 10 when we parted that meeting. He thought we were 11 being frankly ridiculous, and I simply ended the 12 meeting and told him that after he felt as 13 though he could pass the physical examine, you 14 know, he could certainly take another physical 15 exam that the company would pay for. 16 Q. Did you meet with him again? 17 A. It was several weeks to two months later 18 when, yes, when Ricky came in after a letter, 19 after I received a letter, I made a phone call 20 21 to Ricky, and yes, we did have an additional meeting. 22
 - O. You received a letter from him.
 - A. I received a letter from him, yeah.
 - Q. Asking for a meeting?

2.3

24

A. I don't remember what was in, I honestly 1 don't remember. I remember receiving the 2 letter, but I don't remember exactly what was in 3 the letter. 4 Q. And who was at that meeting? 5 A. I believe just Ricky and I. 6 7 Q. Okay, and what went on in that meeting if you could tell the jury? 8 A. We discussed what Ricky would be able to do 9 for the company, if he wasn't able to do the 10 warehouse position were there other jobs that 11 could be done, and Ricky put his hands out to me 12 and he said, "Look at these hands. These are 13 not hands that can type on a computer. These 14 are not hands that can do desk work." He said, 15 "I want my warehouse job back." 16 Q. And at that point he still had not received 17 medical clearance to return to work? 18 A. That's correct. 19 Q. How did that meeting end? 20 A. On better terms than our first meeting, 21 than the previous meeting ended, but still Ricky 22 felt as though he should be allowed back in the 23 warehouse and back doing the job that he was 24

doing before the way he was, felt that he was

doing it, you know, previously. His physical health at that particular juncture, I mean he came in with a cane again. He was obviously, his mobility hadn't improved from, you know, in moving around the office space. So I didn't feel though there was really much else to talk about when, you know, after the incident with "look at my hands."

- Q. How long did you keep his job open for?
- A. I believe from February I think it was September that we filled his position and sent him a letter stating as such.
- Q. And who was working that position in the interim? Did you have anybody replacing him during that period of time?
- A. You know, that would be part of the operations peoples' jobs. I know that we were shipping parts the whole time, so I didn't really deal with how Ricky's duties were covered in that area.
- Q. If Mr. Shaw had gotten a medical clearance to come back to work even with accommodations, would you have taken him back?
 - A. Yes.

Q. And when you terminated his employment in

September was he invited to reapply back to the 1 company again? 2 A. He was. 3 Q. At any time? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Would you take him back today day if you 6 could? 7 A. My vote would be to take him back. 8 opinion he was a very good employee. 9 Q. So as long as he could do the physical 10 aspects of the job you'd take him back today? 11 A. I would, yes. 12 MS. SALTZ: I have no further questions. 13 THE COURT: Mr. Crocenzi? 14 REDIRECT BY MR. CROCENZI: 15 Q. Did you ever give Ricky Shaw any paperwork, 16 paperwork that indicated he was on a medical 17 leave of absence? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. What exactly did you give him? 20 21 A. I didn't personally give it to him. Q. Okay. What did your department give him? 22 A. FMLA paperwork. Paperwork to sign up for 23 the disability program that Cumberland Truck 24 25 provided. Anything else, any of the standard

forms that were part of that event process. 1 Q. Okay. You told us that in your opinion 2 short-term disability is optional for an 3 employee, is that right? 4 A. That's correct. They don't have to sign 5 up. 6 7 Q. And FMLA is optional, too, obviously? A. Yes. You have to sign up, you have to 8 request FMLA leave. 9 Q. Was there anything put in his personnel 10 file that indicated Ricky Shaw is on medical 11 leave? 12 A. I don't know if there's, that terminology 13 appears anywhere in his personnel file. 14 Q. Now, you testified that you had some 15 concerns about asking Ricky about his physical 16 condition. Now, I understand your concern was 17 that you thought that because of privacy you 18 couldn't ask about his diagnosis. In fact, you 19 said, "I really still don't know what his 20 medical diagnosis was," am I right? 21 A. I still today don't know what his diagnosis 22 was. 23 Q. Isn't that different, Mr. Sheldon, rather 24 25 than asking one of your valuable employees,

"What's going on, Ricky? Having trouble doing 1 your job?" Couldn't you have asked him that? 2 A. I don't feel as though it's my place to do 3 that, no, and I haven't done that with any 4 employee, nor do I think I would in the future. 5 Q. Okay. Well, this guy you've already 6 7 claimed was a valuable employee, you'd want him back if he could pass his physical examination, 8 and yet you're telling us that you didn't care 9 enough to go up to him and say, "Ricky, I've 10 noticed you might be having some problems. Do 11 you want to talk about it or is there something 12 we can do for you?" You didn't do that, did 13 vou? 14 A. It's not a matter of not caring. 15 Q. But you didn't do it, did you, Mr. Sheldon? 16 A. No, nor in the future do I believe I would 17 do that. 18 Q. And you also mentioned that after you got 19 the report from Concentra in February of 2007 20 21 you thought that Ricky was a danger to himself and others. In fact, you had formed that 22 opinion even before you sent him for that 23 physical exam in February of 2007, right? 24 25 A. I didn't form any opinion.

- Q. Didn't you tell us earlier that you thought
 based on what Mr. Hoffman was telling you that
 Ricky could be a danger to himself and others in
 that warehouse?

 A. What I thought was that we had to get to
 the bottom of why an employee who is responsible
 - A. What I thought was that we had to get to the bottom of why an employee who is responsible for carrying and lifting and moving heavy objects was unable to walk across the parking lot without the use of a cane.
 - Q. Right, and part of your concern was that
 Ricky could be a danger to himself and others
 because there are heavy parts in that warehouse,
 right?
 - A. That is certainly a concern.
 - Q. During this second meeting with Ricky I think that you said occurred after September of `07, just before you sent the letter out to him terminating his employment?
- A. I don't believe it was as far as September.

 20 I think that was June time frame.
 - O. June of `07?

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- A. Somewhere in there, yes.
- Q. And did you offer him a job at all during that meeting?
- 25 A. I asked Ricky what he thought he would be

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able to do aside from the warehouse position.
1
     Yes, I was prepared to talk to him about doing
2
     something else for Cumberland Truck Equipment
3
     Company.
 4
       Q. Did you offer him a job during that
5
     meeting?
6
7
       A. There was no job to be offered.
     don't even know what he feels as though he is
8
     able to do outside the warehouse position, I
9
     can't offer a job that's yet I don't know the
10
     parameters for.
11
       Q. Isn't it true that there was no vacant
12
     position at Cumberland Truck in June of 2007
13
     that Ricky was qualified to do?
14
       A. I don't know if there was a job or was not
15
     a job available at that particular juncture,
16
     because we never got that far.
17
       Q. Did you interact with your attorneys in
18
     providing a response to the EEOC when Mr. Shaw
19
     filed that charge?
20
          MS. SALTZ: Objection.
2.1
          THE COURT: Okay. Please approach.
22
          (Side bar at 4:53 p.m.)
23
          MS. SALTZ: The objection is you cannot
24
25
     bring in the EEOC documents, response documents,
```

```
into the case, and I would have done the
1
     research had I known in advance that this was
2
     going to be an exhibit. I mean, it's not being
3
     used for impeachment. It is not --
4
          THE COURT: Well, I think it is being used
5
     for impeachment.
6
7
          MR. CROCENZI: That's what I'm using it for
     because I want to see if Mr. Sheldon
8
     communicated with the attorneys and provided
9
     information and a response, and in this response
10
     it says there were no vacant positions at CTE.
11
          MS. SALTZ: First it would have to be
12
     established by foundation that he wrote this
13
     response --
14
          THE COURT: Or contributed.
15
          MS. SALTZ: -- or contributed to it, and
16
     once that's established then you can get to the
17
     next step, but not without that, and if that's
18
     why you're using it then I don't have a problem
19
     with it, but I don't want the reference to the
20
21
     EEOC, you know, to the extent that --
          THE COURT: Why don't you just say agency
22
     proceedings. Okay?
23
          MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
24
25
          THE COURT: You bet.
```

(Side bar concluded at 4:54 p.m.) 1 BY MR. CROCENZI: 2 Q. Did you work with your corporate attorneys 3 and provide any information in connection with 4 agency proceedings? 5 A. I did. 6 7 Q. And in fact your attorneys were McNees, wallace & Nurick, is that right? 8 A. That's correct. 9 Q. And with the agency proceedings your 10 company had to provide a response to the agency, 11 right? 12 A. I would assume so, yes. 13 Q. And so as part of that process you were 14 giving information to your attorneys and helped 15 formulate a response for the agency proceedings? 16 A. We would have to exchange information, 17 certainly. 18 MR. CROCENZI: Okay. Well, in a letter from 19 McNees, Wallace & Nurick to the agency, I'd like 20 21 you to read from page 6 regarding whether a position was available. 22 THE COURT: And, Mr. Crocenzi, can we have 23 the date of that correspondence for the record? 24 25 MR. CROCENZI: Sure.

(Brief pause.) 1 MS. SALTZ: The objection is still 2 foundation, Your Honor, in terms of showing the 3 witness first the statement and seeing if he in 4 fact made that statement. 5 THE COURT: I think that is what he's 6 7 intending to do. MS. SALTZ: Before reading it to the jury. 8 THE COURT: Well, I agree. Let's find out 9 if he participated in the preparation of this 10 document either by providing information or 11 consulting with the attorneys, and so your 12 objection is sustained, Ms. Saltz --13 MS. SALTZ: Thank you, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: -- with respect to foundation, 15 but, Mr. Crocenzi, you can lay the foundation by 16 showing the witness this exhibit. 17 MR. CROCENZI: For the record the letter is 18 dated June 24th, 2008. Mr. Sheldon, I'm showing 19 you the letter I've been talking about dated 20 June 24th, 2008 from McNees, Wallace & Nurick. 21 Can you take a minute to review that document, 22 and then I'm going to ask you some questions. 23 THE WITNESS: Okay. 24 25 (Brief pause.)

```
THE COURT: Mr. Crocenzi, could we identify
1
     this as a plaintiff's exhibit? I know this was
2
     not previously marked, is that correct?
3
          MR. CROCENZI: That's correct.
4
          THE COURT: All right, and you are at --
5
          MR. CROCENZI: We had premarked seventeen,
6
7
     correct.
          THE COURT: All right. Let's identify this
8
     as Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 18.
9
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you.
10
          (Brief pause.)
11
          THE COURT: Mr. Crocenzi, I believe the
12
     witness has concluded his review.
13
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you, Your Honor.
14
          BY MR. CROCENZI:
15
       Q. Mr. Sheldon, did you -- after reviewing
16
     that letter did you contribute any of the
17
     information in that letter to your attorneys so
18
     they could respond as part of the agency
19
     proceedings?
20
       A. Yes.
2.1
       Q. Now, turning to page 6 of this letter, and
22
     the third paragraph, can you read that paragraph
23
     specifically for me now? To yourself.
24
25
       A. Okay.
```

(Brief pause.) 1 Q. Did you contribute information to your 2 attorney so they could provide information to 3 the agency on that particular issue in that 4 5 paragraph? A. The same as I've contributed all along, 6 7 ves. Q. All right, and isn't it true that in this 8 letter your attorneys on behalf of Cumberland 9 Truck indicate that there were no vacant 10 positions at CTE during the time period for 11 which Mr. Shaw would qualify that he could 12 perform? And the time period of this letter is 13 February 26th, `07 to September 17th, `07. 14 would you like to look at it again? 15 A. That isn't any different than I've already 16 explained. 17 Q. Okay. So there were -- I think it is, 18 Mr. Sheldon. This letter says that there were 19 no vacant positions at CTE during this time 20 period, which is 2-26-07 to 9-17-07. 21 A. Okay. 22 Q. Is that your testimony today? 23 A. That there were no vacant positions? 24 25 Q. Yes.

- A. There were no vacant warehouse positions, 1 which was with my discussion with Ricky was the 2 only job he was willing to accept. 3 Q. Okay. Well, again this letter says, "At no 4 point between 2-26-07 and 9-17-07 did Mr. Shaw 5 express any desire or willingness to work any 6 7 position other than his heavy duty warehouse worker position. Regardless, there existed no 8 vacant position at CTE during this time period 9 for which Mr. Shaw was qualified that he could 10 perform." 11 A. That is correct. 12 O. And that information is correct? 13 A. If he's only willing to do a warehouse 14 position work because of the size of his hands 15 or otherwise, then there isn't a position 16 17
 - available that he would be able to perform, that's correct.
 - Q. But, Mr. Sheldon, isn't that different, you're telling us that Ricky is the one that took him out of the running for some kind of duties, but this letter says regardless of whether --
 - MS. SALTZ: Objection.

19

20

21

22

2.3

24

25 THE COURT: Hold on one second. Let him

finish the question and then you may object. 1 Q. Regardless of whether he could do the 2 warehouse job position, your company is 3 indicating that there were no vacant positions 4 at CTE that he was qualified to do. 5 MS. SALTZ: Objection. Argumentative, asked 6 and answered several times. 7 THE COURT: All right, I'll allow it one 8 more time. You may respond. 9 A. If Mr. Shaw is only willing to work the 10 position that he had previously, and he is not 11 qualified to do that position because of 12 mobility problems, then there would be no vacant 13 position for which he would be qualified. 14 Q. And is that testimony that you just gave in 15 this letter that we looked at together? 16 A. I'm not following. 17 Q. Your qualification, your explanation, is 18 that spelled out in this letter? 19 A. I didn't write the letter. I contributed 20 21 information to the letter. An attorney wrote that letter on our behalf. How he chose to 22 choose his words I can't answer for the 23 attorney. I apologize, but I can't answer for 24 25 the attorney.

```
Q. Didn't Mr. Shaw give you a letter on
1
     2-28-07 expressing his desire to continue
2
     working at Cumberland Truck?
3
       A. I don't know the dates of the letters, but
4
     Mr. Shaw wrote several letters.
5
       Q. I'm going to show you Plaintiff's Exhibit
6
     11.
7
          (Brief pause.)
8
       Q. Have you had a chance to review that
9
     letter?
10
       A. I have.
11
       Q. It's a letter from Ricky Shaw to Brenda
12
     Hoffman dated 2-28-07, is that right?
13
       A. That's correct.
14
       Q. On page 2, first paragraph, do you see
15
     where I'm at?
16
       A. Page 2, first paragraph, yes, sir.
17
       Q. You testified earlier that Ricky didn't
18
     request any kind of accommodation.
19
       A. Okay.
20
       Q. And can you read the last two sentences of
21
     that first paragraph on page 2? Read it out
22
     loud for the jury, please.
23
       A. "You can modify my job description as
24
25
     warehouse receiver to fit what I really can do.
```

You can leave the situation as it is and has 1 been for a very long time." 2 MR. CROCENZI: That's all I have. 3 THE COURT: Ms. Saltz? 4 RECROSS BY MS. SALTZ: 5 Q. Yes, Your Honor. Looking at Plaintiff's 6 7 Exhibit 11, what's the date of the letter? A. February 28th, 2007. 8 Q. And is that the same day that you met with 9 Mr. Shaw when he went back to work again? 10 A. It would very well be about the same time 11 period, yes. I don't know which day we met with 12 Mr. Shaw, but it was certainly in that time 13 frame. 14 Q. Did he bring this letter to you? 15 A. I believe he brought it to Brenda. 16 didn't bring it directly to me, but I believe he 17 brought it to Brenda and that's where I received 18 it from, or saw it the first time. 19 Q. And the sentence that counsel had you read, 20 "You can modify my job description as warehouse 21 receiver to fit what I really do," is that what 22 you discussed with him in that meeting? 23 A. No. I actually was willing to discuss not 24 25 modifying the job description itself because his

job was what his job was, but actually modifying 1 his duties in order that he would be able to 2 perform them with accommodations. There's a big 3 difference to just modifying a job description 4 to try to make paperwork look good as opposed to 5 doing what in reality you have to do, and that 6 7 is make sure that your worker can do the job that he's supposed to be doing. 8 MS. SALTZ: That's all I have, Your Honor. 9 Thank you. 10 REDIRECT BY MR. CROCENZI: 11 Q. A couple of follow-up, Your Honor, if you 12 can indulge me. Mr. Sheldon, isn't the 13

- Q. A couple of follow-up, Your Honor, if you can indulge me. Mr. Sheldon, isn't the paperwork you talked about, Exhibit 9, the only paperwork that you sent to Concentra Medical Center as part of Ricky's evaluation?
 - A. Is the job analysis Exhibit 9?
- 18 **Q.** Yes.

14

15

16

17

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- A. This is unmarked, I apologize. Yes, the only paperwork Ricky received to take to Concentra was the job analysis form. Now, this is the original job analysis as given to him prior to any of these meetings.
 - Q. I understand that.
 - A. This is also the same job analysis that I

```
offered to allow him to modify with a group in
1
     order that it would be conforming to his opinion
2
     of what his job was.
3
       Q. Okay, so I didn't quite understand your
4
     testimony. You said that you were willing to
5
     change his job, you were willing to change what
6
7
     he did or his job duties, but you weren't
     willing to change the paperwork. Is that what
8
     you said?
9
       A. No. What I said was by changing the
10
     paperwork to make things look good doesn't
11
     change the reality. The reality was he was
12
     struggling to do the warehouse position.
13
       Q. But, sir, isn't it true that Ricky was
14
     asking you to change the paperwork to fit what
15
     he actually did in the warehouse?
16
       A. What he actually did in the warehouse is on
17
     this paperwork.
18
          MR. CROCENZI: Thank you. That's all I
19
     have.
20
          MS. SALTZ: I have no further questions.
21
          THE COURT: All right, I have no questions.
22
     You may step down, Mr. Sheldon. Thank you.
23
          THE WITNESS: Thank you.
24
25
          THE COURT: Mr. Crocenzi, we should probably
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```
have a motion for the admission of Exhibits 9,
1
     I believe maybe 6 and 9?
2
          MR. CROCENZI: Yes. We've been talking a
3
     good bit about 9, and I think 6 was also one of
4
     the exhibits Mr. Whitmire identified. So I'll
5
     move for admission at this point for both of
6
     those exhibits.
7
          MS. SALTZ: I object to the admission of
8
     Exhibit 9. I do not object to Exhibit 6. The
9
     reason for Exhibit 9 is because it is a filled
10
     out form that hasn't been, it's not -- and no
11
     one has identified it. However, Defendant's D-1
12
     is the job analysis without the handwriting on
13
     it.
14
          MR. CROCENZI: That's correct, Your Honor.
15
          THE COURT: All right.
16
          MS. SALTZ: So I would have no objection as
17
     to the admission of D-1 for the purpose at this
18
     point.
19
          THE COURT: All right. Any objection to
20
     Plaintiff's Exhibit 6?
2.1
          MS. SALTZ: No.
22
          THE COURT: All right. Plaintiff's Exhibit
23
     6 is admitted. Defendant's Exhibit Number 1 is
24
25
     also admitted, and we'll defer ruling on your
```

```
motion to admit Defendant's -- or Plaintiff's
1
     Exhibit 9 pending I'm assuming the medical
2
     information?
3
          MR. CROCENZI: Dr. Walsh, right.
 4
          THE COURT: Very well. At this time it's
5
     5:10, I think we should conclude today's
6
     proceedings. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen,
7
     for staying past our anticipated time of
8
     conclusion. This happens on occasion and I
9
     promise I'll let you go early on a day or two as
10
     well to make it up to you. Please recall all of
11
     my earlier instructions and refrain from any
12
     independent research, any tweeting about what
13
14
     you have seen and heard in today's proceedings.
     Go home, get a good night's sleep, and come back
15
     prepared to start tomorrow at 9:00 a.m., and
16
     please drive safely home. Ms. McKinney, you may
17
     escort the jury. We are in recess until 9:00
18
     tomorrow morning. Counsel, please stay.
19
          (Jury recessed at 5:11 p.m.)
20
          THE COURT: Please be seated. This can be
21
     off the record.
22
          (Off the record.)
23
          THE COURT: Very good. We'll see you
24
25
     tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.
```

1	(Court adjourned at 5:12 p.m.)
2	
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Ricky A. Shaw vs. Cumberland Truck Equipment Co. 1 1:09-cv-00359 2 Jury Trial Proceedings, Day 1 3 16 May 2011 4 5 6 7 I hereby certify that the proceedings 8 and evidence are contained fully and accurately 9 in the notes taken by me on the trial of the 10 above case, and that this copy is a correct 11 transcript of the same. 12 13 14 s/ Wesley J. Armstrong 15 16 Wesley J. Armstrong 17 Registered Merit Reporter 18 19 20 21 The foregoing certification of this 22 transcript does not apply to any reproduction by 23 any means unless under the direct control and/or 24 25 supervision of the certifying reporter.

	1	1		1
<u>#</u>	<u>196:4</u>	<u>52:20, 53:25, 57:17,</u>	4	9
	160 [1] - 2:21	83:2, 90:22, 92:19,		
# 412 [1] - 1:20	<u>17 [1] - 55:11</u>	99:13, 99:24, 100:19,	<u>4 [3] - 103:5, 103:6,</u>	9 _[20] - 51:13, 59:7,
	<u>17050 [1] - 1:16</u>	<u>101:12, 107:5, 107:6,</u>	105:5	88:21, 95:17, 101:17,
<u>0</u>	<u>17101 [1] - 1:13</u>	<u>110:13, 115:16,</u>	40 [1] - 124:23 401-K [2] - 146:12,	<u>115:16, 118:21,</u> 118:22, 118:23,
07 [11] - 40:23,	<u>17108 [1] - 1:25</u>	116:11, 117:15,	146:21	118:24, 152:23,
42:10, 47:23, 48:15,	<u>177 [1] - 2:22</u>	<u>145:7, 145:21, 146:3,</u> 146:13, 147:4, 148:3,	42 [1] - 124:23	191:14, 191:17,
<u>145:16, 149:14,</u>	17th [1] - 186:14	149:21, 150:22,	44 [1] - 2:12	193:1, 193:2, 193:4,
<u>155:23, 180:17,</u>	18 [1] - 185:9 190 [1] - 2:22	153:5, 156:19,	45 [1] - 20:10	193:9, 193:10, 194:2
<u>180:21, 186:14</u>	19087 [1] - 1:20	157:13, 179:20,	4:45 [1] - 17:7	9-17-07 [2] - 186:21,
09 [1] - 40:24	191 [1] - 2:22	179:24, 181:13, 190:8	4:53 [1] - 181:23	<u>187:5</u>
1	1976 [1] - 60:14	2008 [3] - 146:7,	<u>4:54</u> [1] - 183:1	90 [1] - 126:5
	1986 [1] - 80:24	<u>184:19, 184:21</u>		<u>964-3333 [1] - 1:21</u>
<u>1 [9] - 1:7, 2:2, 52:2, </u>	1998 _[1] - 45:15	2010 [7] - 28:3,	<u>5</u>	<u>993 [1] - 1:20</u>
<u>52:6, 103:8, 120:24,</u>	1:00 [1] - 43:20	54:22, 56:7, 86:24,	5 [4] - 105:12,	9:00 [5] - 17:11.
<u>154:8, 193:24, 196:3</u>	1:09-CV-00359 [3] -	<u>95:3, 140:4, 140:5</u>	105:13, 106:18, 138:5	<u>17:13, 194:16,</u> 194:18. 194:25
10 [3] - 87:5, 87:6,	<u>1:3, 2:2, 196:2</u>	2011 [4] - 1:5, 2:3, 81:21, 196:4	5006 [1] - 1:16	9:30 [2] - 1:6, 3:2
87:7 100 [1] - 1:16	<u>1:15 [2] - 43:21, 44:3</u>	21 [3] - 32:16, 56:11,	542-5569 [1] - 1:25	<u> </u>
100 [1] - 1.16 10:30 [1] - 17:3	<u>1:20 [1] - 44:5</u>	56:23	<u>55_{.[1]} - 31:3</u>	A
10:40 [1] - 3:2		22 [1] - 19:2	<u>58 [1] - 2:12</u>	
10:41 [1] - 3:10	<u>2</u>	228 [1] - 1:24	<u>591-1755 [1] - 1:17</u>	<u>a.m [10] - 1:6, 3:3,</u>
10th _[2] - 27:12,	2 [16] - 52:6, 103:9,	234-4161 [1] - 1:14	<u>5:00 [1] - 17:5</u>	3:10, 17:11, 17:13, 18:14, 20:15, 44:5,
107:6	<u>103:11, 105:20,</u>	24th [2] - 184:19,	<u>5:10 [1] - 194:6</u>	194:16. 194:25
11 [5] - 56:11, 56:21,	<u>106:7, 106:17,</u>	<u>184:21</u>	<u>5:11</u> [1] - 194:20	abilities [1] - 97:6
<u>119:22, 189:7, 190:7</u>	<u>115:25, 119:1, 119:3,</u>	26th [11] - 24:2, 26:1,	<u>5:12_[1] - 195:1</u>	ability [2] - 23:11,
<u>110 [1] - 62:6</u>	120:24, 142:4,	39:6, 90:22, 110:12,	6	23:20
<u>116 [1] - 2:16</u>	142:10, 154:8, 190:15, 190:17	149:14, 153:5, 155:00, 150:10	<u>6</u>	able [47] - 19:8, 21:6,
<u>11:01</u> [1] - 18:14	189:15, 189:17, 189:22	<u>155:23, 156:19,</u> 157:6, 186:14	<u>6</u> [20] - 93:13, 93:15,	25:4, 25:12, 28:1,
11:03 [1] - 20:15	2-26-07 [2] - 186:21,	27th [1] - 110:12	<u>95:18, 96:3, 96:11,</u>	28:7, 28:20, 29:16,
<u>11:20 ន្ទា - 18:5,</u> 18:12, 20:9	187:5	28th [2] - 157:13,	<u>118:21, 118:22,</u>	32:7, 32:10, 32:24,
11:25 [1] - 20:15	2-28-07 [2] - 189:2,	190:8	<u>119:1, 119:3, 119:13,</u>	38:16, 39:6, 41:11,
11:58 [1] - 44:5	<u>189:13</u>	2:30 [1] - 17:4	129:16, 146:23, 147:1, 183:21,	43:2, 69:25, 76:23,
11th [5] - 54:22,	20 [4] - 2:8, 65:8,	2:53 [1] - 133:25	185:22, 193:2, 193:4,	77:1, 92:2, 92:7, 97:15, 100:15,
56:7, 86:24, 95:3,	<u>74:15, 74:22</u>		193:9, 193:21, 193:24	<u>97.13, 100.13,</u> 100:23, 118:2,
107:5	<u>2000 [2] - 34:25.</u>	<u>3</u>	610 [1] - 1:21	122:11, 124:11,
12 [3] - 95:2, 95:3,	<u>162:19</u>	3 [10] - 2:7, 102:10,	65 [9] - 87:18, 101:2,	124:17, 129:4,
<u>95:6</u>	2002 [2] - 80:18.	102:18, 103:12,	<u>101:5, 122:10,</u>	130:19, 136:1,
120 [1] - 38:17	82:25 2003 tol. 142:4	115:25, 120:24,	<u>122:13, 123:8,</u>	140:25, 158:25,
<u>125 [1] - 86:7</u>	<u>2003 [2] - 143:4,</u> 153:16	138:5, 146:8, 146:24,	<u>123:10, 123:13,</u>	<u>159:2, 165:25,</u>
129 [1] - 2:17	2004 [8] - 81:19,	147:2	<u>123:15</u>	<u>166:10, 167:1, 167:4,</u>
12:15 [1] - 16:23	83:5, 102:8, 104:8,	<u>3.2 [1] - 146:3</u>	7	169:15, 170:13,
12th [3] - 28:3, 140:4, 140:5	143:1, 143:5, 143:6,	<u>30 [1] - 124:23</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>171:15, 171:24,</u> 175:9, 175:10, 181:1,
13 _[1] - 95:3	153:17	<u>32 [1] - 72:14</u>	70 [2] - 76:10, 122:13	181:9, 187:17, 191:2
132 [1] - 2:17	<u>2005</u> [2] - 35:11,	320 [1] - 1:13	717 [3] - 1:14, 1:17,	absence [3] - 18:2,
140 [4] - 2:19, 38:17,	<u>143:6</u>	33 [1] - 2:9	<u>1:25</u>	39:13, 177:18
123:7, 123:23	<u>2006</u> [4] - 35:21,	38 [1] - 84:25 3:00 [2] - 17:4,	73 [1] - 2:13	absolutely [4] -
144 [1] - 2:21	<u>36:1, 84:24, 117:14</u>	3:00 [2] - 17:4, 133:22	77 [1] - 2:13	150:20, 158:5,
15 [1] - 55:11	2006/2007 [1] -	3:10 _[1] - 133:24	79 [3] - 27:20, 106:9,	<u>158:23, 167:21</u>
<u>15-minute [4] -</u>	163:15 2007 [51] - 21:11,	3:14 [1] - 133:25	<u>106:14</u>	accept [4] - 10:9,
<u>16:25, 17:1, 18:4,</u>	22:17, 24:2, 25:17,	3:23 [1] - 139:13	8	<u>140:7, 140:8, 187:3</u>
<u>133:21</u>	25:20, 26:1, 27:12,	3:26 _[1] - 140:19		acceptable [1] -
150 [10] - 63:1, 64:8,	29:21, 31:10, 31:11,	3:38 [1] - 142:2	<u>8 [3] - 87:6, 115:16</u>	104:9
89:5, 89:12, 89:13, 90:2, 97:1, 100:13,	35:21, 36:2, 39:6.	<u>3:48 [1] - 144:1</u>	80 [1] - 2:16	access [1] - 14:9 accident [3] - 34:20,
90:2, 97:1, 100:13, 122:16	<u>45:17, 45:20, 46:11,</u>		<u>8:45 [1] - 17:14</u>	150:13
16 [3] - 1:5, 2:3,	47:5, 47:10, 48:25,			accidents[1] -
<u> </u>				

150:18 accommodate [2] -16:3, 163:5 accommodation [11] - 16:6, 16:16, 25:14, 29:11, 35:24, 36:18, 37:2, 41:16, 42:23, 69:21, 189:19 <u>accommodations</u> [5] - 163:19, 167:13, 170:23, 176:22, 191:3 accomplish [2] -131:13, 136:2 accomplished [2] -98:3, 99:17 according [3] -14:25, 25:8, 35:17 accurate [13] - 26:16, 29:2, 62:19, 89:18, 90:2, 90:5, 90:14, 95:22, 95:25, 119:7, 136:25, 173:3, 173:21 accurately [3] - 27:4, 120:14, 196:9 Act [4] - 23:3, 35:4, 35:13, 39:16 act [2] - 16:14, 21:10 action [6] - 16:13, <u>19:23, 115:7, 115:10,</u> 118:3, 118:8 activities [1] -159:14 activity [1] - 23:8 actual [7] - 26:3, 27:4, 29:9, 88:3, 99:6, 103:17, 166:17 ad [2] - 87:14, 87:17 ADA [1] - 23:4 adapts [1] - 21:25 additional [2] -111:20, 174:21 address [5] - 11:23, 20:22, 20:23, 33:13, 134:3 adjourned [1] -195:1 administer[1] -144:8 administration [1] -32:12 admissible [1] -10:22 admission [10] -<u>71:1, 141:15, 141:18, </u> 142:7, 142:10, <u>142:20, 193:1, 193:6,</u> <u>193:8, 193:18</u> admissions [1] -139:5 admit [1] - 194:1

admitted [13] - 6:4, 6:13, 41:9, 138:5, 138:24, 139:3, 139:7, 141:25, 142:23, 171:12, 171:13, 193:24, 193:25 adopted [1] - 154:4 advance [1] - 182:2 advantage [2] -<u>160:11, 160:12</u> adverse[1] - 16:13 advertise [1] - 89:9 advertised [1] -87:20 advice [2] - 37:23, 164:23 advise [2] - 71:6, 134:10 afternoon [11] - 17:1. 17:3, 44:25, 59:5, 80:6, 80:7, 133:15, 135:6, 144:6, 144:20, <u>144:21</u> agencies [2] - 30:24, 32:21 agency [8] - 182:22, 183:5, 183:10, 183:11, 183:16, <u>183:20, 185:19, 186:4</u> agree [17] - 5:22, 6:2, 19:8, 33:16, 33:18, 96:2, 96:5, 96:7, 96:9, 96:10, 96:13, 101:1, 104:8, 112:13, 172:8, 173:20, 184:9 agreed [2] - 68:25, 136:21 agrees [1] - 23:21 ahead [1] - 49:23 air_[1] - 77:19 aisle [2] - 61:5, 131:4 aisles [3] - 67:23, 82:2, 130:25 alcohol [1] - 152:15 allegation [1] -114:25 allegations [1] - 16:8 allegedly[1] - 57:22 allow [8] - 14:8, 14:17, 14:21, 20:1, <u>20:4, 172:1, 188:8, </u> 192:1 allowed [2] - 162:5, 175:23 allowing [2] -158:21, 159:9 almost [3] - 41:3, 43:5, 103:11

alone [1] - 5:18

Americans [2] - 21:9,

23:3 analysis [25] - 25:22, 26:2, 26:6, 27:3, 29:8, 51:20, 59:12, 60:7, 62:17, 88:22, 89:11, 118:24, 154:6, 154:20, 155:1, 155:10, 155:14, 155:25, 156:4, 166:18, 191:17, 191:21, 191:22, 191:25, 193:13 Analysis [1] - 51:15 analyzes [1] - 31:9 answer [6] - 56:16. 85:24, 87:11, 87:16, 188:23, 188:24 answered [4] -55:16, 57:9, 133:3, 188:7 answering [1] -121:3 answers [1] - 139:25 anticipate [2] -16:17, 18:1 anticipated [3] -<u>17:9, 17:21, 194:8</u> anyway [1] - 138:19 apologize [3] -94:19, 188:24, 191:19 Appalachian [1] -30:7 apparent_[1] - 160:8 appearance [1] -8:19 APPEARANCES [1] -1:10 appearing [1] - 54:19 application [3] -27:12, 31:21, 32:3 applied [2] - 30:1, 31:24 applies [2] - 15:23, apply [12] - 5:9, 5:16, 5:19, 15:24, 25:5, 28:8, 29:13, 29:19, 31:18, 41:7, 158:7, 196:23 appreciate [2] -<u>17:18, 30:12</u> approach [2] - 141:5, 181:22 approve [2] - 102:4, 102:6 approved [2] - 103:2, 104:25 April [6] - 25:20. 29:21, 31:10, 40:12, 40:23, 42:9

188:6 arguments [5] - 5:4, 5:6, 6:18, 10:16, 33:9 arise [1] - 5:12 Armstrong [3] - 1:23, 196:15, 196:17 Army [4] - 31:4, 32:17, 32:19, 33:4 arrange[1] - 7:16 arrive [2] - 17:13, 17:24 arrives [2] - 24:6, 24:25 arthritis [2] - 21:24 articles [1] - 14:3 aside [4] - 94:6, 163:19, 166:5, 181:1 aspects [1] - 177:11 asserted [1] - 164:21 assigned [6] - 119:1, 119:15, 129:18, 131:22, 167:2, 169:16 assistance [6] -89:10, 89:14, 89:24, 90:18, 128:9, 128:13 assistant [3] - 24:20, 24:21, 123:20 associated [2] -13:15, 13:20 assume [5] - 16:22. 89:23, 90:16, 109:1, 183:13 assumed [1] - 22:8 assuming [3] -131:12, 136:6, 194:2 assure [1] - 13:5 attention [11] - 7:5, 7:24, 13:8, 33:11, 52:19, 93:12, 95:2, <u>148:2, 148:12, 150:8,</u> <u>161:6</u> attorney [8] - 164:1, <u>164:5, 164:10,</u> <u>164:21, 186:3,</u> 188:21, 188:24, 188:25 attorneys [11] - 7:13, 13:5, 164:2, 181:18, <u>182:9, 183:3, 183:7,</u> 183:15, 184:12, 185:18, 186:9 authority [3] - 9:2, 9:14, 173:23 available [9] - 31:2, 76:3, 88:6, 88:7, 88:10, 143:17,

area_[3] - 98:9,

98:14, 176:20

181:16, 183:22, 187:17 arque [1] - 31:23 average [2] - 62:6, 115:22 argumentative [1] avoid [2] - 11:19, 13:18 aware [5] - 57:15, 72:23, 73:11, 73:13, 163:15

В

bad [3] - 41:10, 41:11, 150:9 **bar** [2] - 181:23. 183:1 barely [3] - 111:25, 113:4, 127:1 **base**[1] - 18:10 based [23] - 7:7, 14:16, 23:5, 38:19, 39:14, 43:1, 55:19, 60:23, 89:22, 97:6, 97:12, 97:14, 118:2, 123:2, 135:10, 162:7, 163:6, 166:25, 169:12, 169:15, 169:17, 180:2 basis [13] - 14:25, 16:2, 26:5, 27:5, 46:20, 49:5, 97:2, 97:3, 116:19, 117:4, 117:5, 117:7, 132:7 bear[1] - 104:22 bears [1] - 20:19 become [1] - 38:13 **BEFORE** [1] - 1:8 began [1] - 107:21 **begin** [6] - 4:3, 5:14, 16:16, 80:22, 102:6, 136:6 beginning [4] -54:24, 140:19, 146:1, 160:22 behalf_[3] - 33:23, 186:9, 188:22 behind [2] - 125:18, 125:24 belief [1] - 105:2 believability [1] -10:11 believes [1] - 10:21 belongings [2] -3:16, 18:8 below [1] - 106:15 bench [1] - 11:15 bend [5] - 92:2. 121:14, 129:19. 129:25, 130:19

bending [14] - 34:8,

38:25, 39:8, 58:18, 66:6, 91:6, 91:9, 91:13, 91:14, 91:15, 91:16, 96:14, 119:25, 125:12 benefit [6] - 29:14, 30:1, 30:19, 160:17, 160:19, 160:20 benefits [16] - 25:5, 28:9, 28:16, 29:20, 31:5, 31:19, 32:8, 35:1, 35:2, 35:8, 35:18, 39:17, 39:18, 39:20, 41:8, 158:8 best [11] - 11:19, 12:3, 37:17, 37:25, <u>108:18, 109:5, 112:4,</u> 154:17, 154:22, 155:12, 167:8 bet [1] - 182:25 better [4] - 30:22, <u>68:20, 151:10, 175:21</u> between [6] - 13:14. <u>81:11, 116:15, 127:3,</u> 170:2, 187:5 beyond [1] - 15:21 big [4] - 46:2, 72:12, <u>120:4, 191:3</u> bigger_[1] - 50:6 biggest_[2] - 67:14, 100:2 **bill** [3] - 98:18, 172:4, 172:13 billed [1] - 61:7 billing [1] - 101:9 bills [1] - 29:22 bins [1] - 61:22 bit[1] - 193:4 blackberries [1] -14:7 blank [1] - 153:10 blanks [1] - 160:23 block [1] - 52:2 blog [1] - 12:22 bogus [1] - 26:14 bothering [1] - 108:9 bottom [3] - 52:6, 135:17, 180:6 bounced [1] - 32:19 bout [1] - 162:1 brake [14] - 61:2, 62:2, 62:4, 63:9, 63:14, 63:23, 63:24, 64:2, 66:13, 67:20, 67:21, 68:1, 101:6, 162:19 branch [4] - 61:21, 61:24, 63:23, 120:15 branches [4] - 61:15, 61:17, 61:20, 64:19

break [19] - 3:22, 9:20, 16:17, 16:19, 16:22, 16:23, 16:25, 17:1, 17:2, 17:3, 17:23, 18:4, 43:18, 133:15, 133:21, 134:21, 139:16, 141:12 breaks [1] - 53:13 Brenda [27] - 24:6, 24:7, 24:17, 25:1, 28:6, 34:14, 35:12, 39:11, 48:5, 71:9, 71:24, 113:24, 136:13, 145:20, <u>156:18, 157:17,</u> <u>191:11</u> <u>157:24, 158:3, 164:5,</u>

190:18

Brief [27] - 3:19,
51:14, 57:1, 59:3,
59:25, 86:13, 88:19,
93:11, 94:12, 95:8,
95:15, 95:23, 104:13,
107:10, 139:12,
142:1, 143:10,
143:12, 143:14,

165:5, 165:9, 167:3,

169:2, 169:23,

189:12, 190:16,

143:21, 144:18, 152:25, 184:1, 184:25, 185:11, 186:1, 189:8

<u>190:15, 190:17</u>

brief [2] - 8:11, 16:19 briefly [1] - 139:15 bring [9] - 3:16, 13:8, 121:20, 135:21, 169:3, 171:8, 181:25,

bringing [1] - 159:5 brought [6] - 15:5, 40:24, 148:11, 150:8, 190:16, 190:18

BRYAN [1] - 144:14 Bryan [19] - 2:20, 23:16, 24:9, 47:18,

53:20, 69:2, 69:5, 69:6, 69:15, 70:2, 70:14, 71:9, 71:24,

109:21, 109:23, 112:12, 144:4, 144:10, 144:14

building [15] - 9:22, 36:8, 37:9, 49:11, 50:4, 50:19, 50:23, 52:22, 68:14, 83:17, 83:18, 83:19, 83:21,

116:12, 126:11 **Building** [1] - 83:12 **buildings** [1] - 127:4 bulbs [1] - 62:11 bulk [1] - 81:14 bulky [1] - 78:1 burden [5] - 15:8. 15:18, 15:22, 20:19, 25:11 business [4] - 37:14, 45:24, 60:19, 145:11 BY [19] - 50:25, 56:20, 59:4, 71:5, 73:23, 80:5, 102:22, 106:2, 116:7, 129:14, 132:15, 144:19, 160:2, 165:2, 177:15, 183:2, 185:15, 190:5,

<u>C</u>

cane [17] - 22:1, <u>53:10, 57:22, 107:16,</u> 108:2, 108:3, 108:16, 114:17, 115:11, 148:14, 148:23, 149:8, 149:19, 161:8, 166:2, 176:3, 180:9 canes [1] - 108:20 cannot_[5] - 22:23, 25:6, 133:7, 160:14, 181:24 capabilities [1] -27:2 capable [1] - 30:17 capacity [2] - 27:1, 32:15 care [4] - 13:18, 35:6, 35:14, 179:9 cared [1] - 127:16 careful [1] - 7:4 caring [1] - 179:15 Carlisle [23] - 21:13, 21:16, 21:17, 32:19, 46:8, 46:15, 47:7, 47:10, 48:3, 48:10, 48:23, 49:9, 60:4, 72:15, 73:25, 81:8, 83:10, 85:13, 134:24, 135:23, 147:7, 147:10, 147:11 carrier [1] - 153:20 carry [13] - 26:22, 39:9, 40:8, 63:20, <u>76:4, 86:15, 86:17,</u> 86:18, 88:8, 90:19, 121:15, 123:13, 132:20 carrying [18] - 34:7, <u>58:12, 63:19, 64:5,</u>

122:9, 123:1, 148:24, 180:7 cart [20] - 88:11, 124:15, 124:16, 124:17, 124:19, 124:22, 124:24, 125:10, 125:14, 130:10, 130:13, 130:14, 130:16, 130:21, 133:1, 133:2 carts [6] - 65:11, 76:3, 109:13, 124:2, 125:4, 131:7 carved [1] - 33:3 case [56] - 4:2, 4:6, 4:17, 4:22, 5:10, 5:15, <u>6:8, 7:1, 7:4, 9:13,</u> <u>10:1, 10:14, 11:6,</u> 12:4, 12:8, 12:9, 12:12, 12:17, 12:21, 12:23, 13:2, 13:4, <u>13:8, 13:12, 13:15,</u> <u>13:20, 14:3, 14:5,</u> <u>14:16, 15:3, 15:4,</u> <u>15:8, 15:25, 16:10,</u> 20:20, 21:1, 21:7, 22:25, 25:10, 31:25, 32:7, 33:17, 43:7, 43:15, 43:22, 55:5, 79:15, 133:23, 153:18, 156:6, 164:20, 167:15, 172:22, 182:1, 196:11 CASE [1] - 1:3 cases [4] - 15:23, 15:24, 101:6, 154:4 catalogs [2] - 101:9, 101:11 categories [2] -<u>27:14, 103:14</u> category [4] - 27:15, 27:21, 90:1, 103:12 caused [2] - 92:23, 127:8 cautiously [1] - 22:1 cell [2] - 14:7, 135:21 Center [8] - 23:23, 25:16, 151:23, 152:3, 152:4, 156:20, 157:22, 191:16 central [1] - 38:18 cents [1] - 146:22 certain [6] - 6:16. 11:17, 23:1, 35:25, 101:6, 156:8 certainly [9] -146:11, 146:20, 148:24, 149:3, 173:6,

174:15, 180:14,

100:19, 119:25,

183:18, 190:13 certification [1] -196:22 certified [1] - 65:3 certify [1] - 196:8 certifying [1] -196:25 chain [2] - 109:21, 156:24 chance [2] - 153:1, 189:9 change [7] - 83:2, 109:6, 192:6, 192:8, 192:12, 192:15 changed [2] - 38:11, 147:3 changing [1] -192:10 charge [1] - 181:20 Charles [5] - 2:11, 22:10, 44:8, 44:19, <u>44:23</u> check [5] - 49:17, 77:10, 84:8, 98:17, 147:18 checked [6] - 61:6, 98:10, 98:11, 98:14, 99:14, 112:17 checking [5] - 65:13. 75:4, 75:5, 98:19, 120:14 chief [1] - 133:23 choice [5] - 29:24, 39:20, 159:17, 170:16, 170:18 choose [2] - 35:18, 188:23 chose [2] - 40:23, 188:22 CHRISTOPHER [1] chuck [2] - 109:20. 110:21 Chuck [11] - 83:5, 147:14, 148:3, 148:8, 148:11, 148:13, 148:17, 149:23, 151:18, 154:16, 161:6 circumstance [2] -17:19, 161:18 Civil [1] - 2:2 civil [3] - 3:2, 15:4, <u>15:24</u> CIVIL [1] - 1:7 claim [1] - 31:22 claimed [1] - 179:7 claims [4] - 4:14, 15:11, 16:1, 32:1 clarified [1] - 135:14 clarify[1] - 60:9

88:14, 90:1, 90:10,

91:1, 96:23, 100:18,

Class [1] - 46:3 clean [3] - 138:1, 172:4, 172:13 cleaner [1] - 137:22 cleaning [1] - 121:17 cleanly [1] - 137:16 clearance [2] -175:18, 176:21 client [2] - 10:24, 164:22 climb_[2] - 121:22, 128:7 climbing [12] - 34:8, <u>38:23, 38:24, 39:8,</u> 66:3, 93:1, 93:2, 96:3, 96:6, 126:9, 128:5 climbs [1] - 21:25 clocked [2] - 158:14, <u> 169:1</u> clocking [1] - 168:22 clocks [1] - 168:22 close [3] - 5:14, 7:24, 25:14 closer [3] - 25:17, 126:19, 163:14 closing [4] - 5:4, 5:6, 10:16, 33:9 clue [1] - 91:25 clutch [1] - 63:14 clutches [1] - 62:12 co [1] - 33:7 Co [2] - 2:1, 196:1 co-counsel [1] - 33:7 collect [1] - 10:3 combined [1] - 145:8 coming [9] - 17:23, 37:9, 53:14, 66:25, 71:7, 71:13, 72:1, 126:9, 162:13 command [2] -<u>109:22, 156:24</u> comment [3] - 11:5, 55:13, 104:4 comments [5] -32:11, 103:22, 103:23, 104:2, 104:5 committee [4] -114:1, 114:9, 114:12, 114:14 communicate [1] -12:21 communicated [1] -182:9 comp [4] - 153:25, 154:1, 162:18, 163:19 **COMPANY** [1] - 1:5 company [21] -23:19, 24:8, 34:22, 35:16, 39:19, 40:2, <u>45:16, 114:5, 120:25,</u>

148:5, 154:2, 158:2, 160:9, 160:18, 160:19, 162:4, 174:16, 175:10, 177:2, 183:11, 188:3 Company [17] - 4:15, 4:18, 4:21, 15:6, 15:15, 15:20, 16:2, 16:7, 16:12, 21:9, 29:4, 45:10, 45:25, 51:16, 144:23, 145:3, 181:4 comparison [1] -83:15 compensation [2] -153:18, 153:20 complaints [11] -<u>57:18, 57:21, 58:3,</u> 58:7, 58:11, 58:14, <u>58:17, 58:20, 107:12,</u> 109:15, 149:23 **complete** [2] - 9:8, 62:16 completed [6] -27:11, 153:7, 155:14, 156:3, 166:19, 166:22 completely [1] -133:6 completes [1] -31:20 component [1] -38:18 computer [4] -98:22, 99:6, 99:9, <u>175:14</u> Concentra [46] -23:23, 24:11, 24:19, 25:16, 25:24, 26:13, 26:17, 26:20, 26:24, 29:3, 30:2, 31:10, 39:2, 112:9, 113:20, 114:11, 115:2, 149:15, 151:23, 152:3, 152:4, 152:9, 152:10, 152:12, 152:14, 152:18, 152:19, 153:5, 153:13, 154:18, 156:20, 157:5, 157:18, 157:22, 165:15, 165:17, 166:19, 166:22, 169:13, 172:2, 172:10, 172:17, 179:20, 191:15, 191:21 concern [16] - 69:7. 103:20. 108:13. 113:3, 127:6, 127:8,

127:15, 127:17,

128:4, 128:24, 129:2, 131:24, 173:9, 178:17, 180:10, 180:14 concerned [9] -36:23, 37:20, 55:8, 55:14, 67:13, 68:2, 79:5, 149:1 concerning [2] -<u>146:1, 148:4</u> concerns [13] -54:12, 69:8, 69:24, 101:21, 105:6, 106:5, <u>106:25, 109:15,</u> 110:5, 151:24, 169:9, 169:11, 178:16 conclude [3] - 11:4, 17:4, 194:6 concluded [2] -183:1, 185:13 conclusion [6] -4:17, 7:14, 31:14, 31:17, 81:6, 194:9 conclusions [1] -11:3 condition [16] - 30:8, 35:22, 36:14, 40:3, <u>41:5, 41:15, 42:17,</u> <u>43:9, 43:14, 69:17,</u> <u>70:18, 159:11,</u> <u>159:16, 162:16,</u> <u>178:17</u> conditioned [1] -34:10 conditions [1] -<u>163:16</u> conduct [1] - 4:5 conference [2] -11:14, 169:4 conferences [2] -11:17, 11:21 confines [1] - 12:5 confirmed [1] -135:18 conflict [1] - 32:14 conforming [1] -192:2 confronted [1] - 37:3 confused [3] - 19:13, 122:7, 122:24 **confusion** [1] - 11:19 connection [1] -183:4 Conner [3] - 22:25. 25:10, 32:6 **CONNER**[1] - 1:8 consider [3] - 8:1, 14:23, 97:17 consideration [1] -5:2

considered [3] - 6:6. 6:17, 6:23 considering [1] -37:19 consist [1] - 5:24 consisted [1] - 48:4 constant [1] - 93:10 constantly [1] -126:6 consult [3] - 7:23, <u>155:8, 164:3</u> consulted [1] - 164:1 consulting [1] -184:12 contact [2] - 13:14, 17:22 contained [2] -<u>19:22, 196:9</u> context [1] - 141:1 contingent [1] -34:15 continue [11] - 70:6, 133:22, 143:24, 146:15, 154:8, 159:19, 162:12, 169:10, 170:13, 171:15, 189:2 continued [4] - 41:2, 142:2, 144:1, 170:6 contribute [6] -88:25, 146:21, 146:25, 147:2, 185:17. 186:2 contributed [4] -182:15, 182:16, 186:6, 188:20 contributes [2] -146:24, 147:1 contribution [1] -146:22 control [1] - 196:24 controller [6] -23:17, 47:20, 47:22, 109:23, 144:22, 145:17 conversation [8] -108:8, 113:16, 149:4, 161:5, 169:7, 170:1, 171:2, 171:22 conversations [8] -43:23, 79:20, 79:23, <u>110:16, 111:13,</u> <u>111:16, 111:20,</u> 133:17 conveying [1] -12:25 copies [2] - 138:6. 141:6 **copy** [9] - 29:5,

56:15, 87:1, 104:19,

137:22, 138:1, 140:13, 171:10, 196:11 corner [4] - 67:24, 105:20, 106:18, 107:7 corporate [9] -23:16, 47:20, 47:22, 50:2, 50:15, 144:22, 145:17, 147:13, 183:3 correct [78] - 46:19, 46:23, 47:1, 47:16, 48:20, 48:23, 48:24, 49:10, 51:21, 51:25, 54:14, 54:18, 62:18, 74:9, 81:9, 81:10, 83:23, 83:24, 85:3, 89:2, 89:6, 97:3, 101:14, 103:14, 104:6, 104:7, 104:17, 104:19, 104:23, 105:17, 106:9, <u>106:12, 107:5,</u> <u>110:13, 111:14,</u> 113:9, 129:19, 129:25, 130:10, 131:10, 136:9, 137:6, 137:19, 144:24, 145:4, 145:10, 145:15, 145:18, 145:22, 146:14, 147:15, 147:20, 151:13, 151:21, 152:8, 152:13, 156:1, 156:13, 157:3, <u>157:12, 165:14,</u> <u>166:16, 166:21,</u> <u>166:23, 168:11,</u> 168:24, 175:19, 178:5, 183:9, 185:3, <u>185:4, 185:7, 187:12,</u> 187:13, 187:18, 189:14, 193:15, 196:11 corrected [1] - 7:11 correspondence [1] <u>- 183:24</u> cost [1] - 115:19 could've [1] - 129:5 counsel [31] - 3:4, 3:20, 4:13, 4:14, 4:17, 4:19, 5:4, 11:13, 18:12, 18:15, 18:23, 19:9, 20:9, 20:25, 33:7, 33:15, 37:23, 56:13, 59:11, 129:17, 130:8, 131:6, 132:23, 134:2, 135:2, 136:20, 139:15, 141:3, 164:23, 190:20, 194:19

counter_[2] - 83:12, 116:13 country [2] - 32:16. couple [6] - 49:16, 49:17, 84:5, 168:<u>5,</u> 168:21, 191:12 course [9] - 5:13, 7:21, 10:2, 10:18, 11:10, 20:6, 29:6, 62:22, 140:23 COURT [132] - 1:1, 3:4, 3:8, 3:11, 3:20, <u>4:1, 18:15, 18:25,</u> <u>19:5, 19:11, 19:15,</u> <u>19:25, 20:8, 20:16,</u> 33:12, 43:16, 44:6, 44:9, 44:14, 44:16, 45:5, 49:20, 50:11, 50:14, 50:17, 50:21, 50:24, 56:12, 56:19, 59:1, 60:8, 71:1, 71:4, 71:15, 73:20, 77:15, 77:18, 78:1, 78:8, <u>78:11, 78:14, 78:17,</u> 78:20, 78:23, 79:3, 79:6, 79:10, 79:16, 79:19, 79:22, 87:3, 92:9, 96:7, 102:19, 102:21, 103:4, 105:24, 106:1, 116:6, 129:13, 132:14, 133:10, 133:14, 134:1, 134:10, 134:25, 135:16, 135:25, 136:15, 136:18, 137:3, 137:9, <u>137:14, 137:17,</u> <u>137:20, 138:2,</u> <u>138:10, 138:14,</u> 138:20, 138:22, 139:2, 139:6, 139:14, 140:5, 140:14, 140:22, 141:7, 141:9, <u>141:19, 141:22,</u> 141:25, 142:5, 142:7, <u>142:11, 142:15,</u> 142:22, 142:25, 143:4, 143:6, 143:16, 143:22, 144:3, 144:6, 159:25, 164:7, <u>164:18, 164:25,</u> 177:14, 181:22, <u>182:5, 182:15,</u> 182:22, 182:25, <u>183:23, 184:6, 184:9,</u> <u>184:15, 185:1, 185:5,</u> <u>185:8, 185:12,</u> 187:25, 188:8, 190:4, 192:22, 192:25,

193:16, 193:20, 140:12, 140:17, 193:23, 194:5, 140:20, 141:5, 194:21, 194:24 141:17, 141:20, court [11] - 5:20, 6:3, 6:21, 7:20, 9:19, 10:3, 11:9, 14:11, 20:21, 20:25 Court [5] - 1:22, 1:23, 2:7, 2:13, 195:1 courthouse [1] -13:24 Courthouse [1] -COURTROOM [4] -44:21, 80:2, 138:25, 144:12 courtroom [15] -6:24, 7:2, 7:16, 9:23, 11:15, 12:2, 18:9, 44:20, 45:6, 78:25, 80:1, 133:18, 140:10, 144:8, 144:11 covered [1] - 176:19 coworker [1] -169:18 crates [1] - 61:22 create [2] - 62:16. 94:7 created [2] - 95:12, 114:14 creating [1] - 94:22 creation [2] - 89:1, credibility [2] - 8:17, 10:11 crews [1] - 72:14 criminal [1] - 15:23 Crocenzi [23] - 1:12, 2:8, 2:12, 2:13, 2:21, 2:22, 20:22, 20:23, 33:12, 33:18, 38:3, 44:6, 45:3, 73:20, <u>140:16, 141:16,</u> 143:22, 177:14, 183:23, 184:16, 185:1, 185:12, 192:25 CROCENZI [77] -<u>3:6, 3:24, 18:21, 19:1, </u> 19:6, 20:11, 20:24, 44:8, 44:11, 44:15, 44:24, 49:24, 50:25, <u>56:11, 56:17, 56:20,</u> 58:24, 60:1, 70:24, 71:11, 73:21, 73:23, 77:13, 78:22, 79:1, 79:4, 79:11, 79:18, 79:21, 134:4, 134:14, 134:23, 135:23,

136:8, 136:13, 137:1,

137:7, 137:21, 140:4,

142:3, 142:9, 142:19, 142:24, 143:3, 143:11, 143:13, 143:15, 144:2, 144:4, 144:16, 159:23, 164:8, 164:14, 164:19, 177:15, 182:7, 183:2, 183:19, 183:25, 184:18, 185:4, 185:6, 185:10, 185:14, 185:15, 190:3, 191:11, 192:19, 193:3, 193:15, 194:4 cROCENZI [2] -141:8, 144:19 Crocenzi's [2] -86:23, 139:24 Cross [3] - 2:12, 2:16, 2:21 CROSS [3] - 59:4, 116:7, 160:2 cross [4] - 4:15, 4:19, 79:24, 116:6 CTE [5] - 182:11, 186:11, 186:20, 187:9, 188:5 CUMBERLAND [1] -1:4 Cumberland [111] -2:1, 4:15, 4:18, 4:21, <u>15:5, 15:15, 15:19,</u> <u>16:1, 16:7, 16:12,</u> 21:8, 21:12, 21:13, 22:7, 22:11, 22:12, 22:14, 23:10, 23:13, 23:17, 23:24, 24:12, 24:25, 25:2, 25:15, 25:24, 26:7, 26:12, 26:18, 26:24, 28:7, 28:20, 28:21, 28:22, <u>28:24, 29:4, 29:7,</u> 29:8, 29:9, 29:12, 29:25, 30:21, 31:1, 31:12, 31:16, 31:23, 32:22, 33:5, 33:6, 33:20, 33:23, 33:25, 34:3, 34:9, 34:25, 37:14, 39:25, 41:1, 41:13, 42:13, 44:12, 45:10, 45:12, 45:24, 46:1, 46:14, 46:23, 51:15, 57:14, 60:20, 74:8, 80:9, 80:13, 80:16, 80:19, 80:23, 80:25, 81:8, 82:18, 83:7, 101:4, 107:22,

113:25, 144:23, 145:3, 145:7, 146:2, 146:12, 151:16, 152:3, 153:22, 153:24, 154:23, 155:7, 155:13, 158:21, 159:7, 159:20, 165:18, 167:6, 168:2, 170:17, 174:2, 177:24, 181:3, 181:13, 186:9, 189:3, 196:1 Cumberland's [2] -<u>167:22,</u> 170:5 current [1] - 170:19 customer [2] - 63:25, 119:24 customers [1] -61:20 cut [1] - 31:25 cylinder [1] - 62:13 D **D-1**_[2] - 193:12, 193:18 D-9[1] - 122:6 daily [4] - 46:20, 49:5, 68:10, 116:19 damages [1] - 31:25 danger [15] - 22:8, 22:24, 54:8, 54:15, 55:14, 55:18, 57:12, 132:3, 132:10, 149:2, <u>151:1, 151:4, 179:21,</u> 180:3, 180:11 Danger [1] - 55:9 dangers [1] - 67:13 date [8] - 91:10, 107:4, 140:2, 156:22, 157:14, 162:6, 183:24, 190:7 dated [3] - 184:19, 184:20, 189:13 dates [1] - 189:4 **DAY** [1] - 1:7 day-to-day [2] - 26:5, 27:5 days [9] - 16:18, 18:11, 72:14, 79:12, <u>116:21, 157:13,</u> <u>158:12, 168:5, 168:21</u> **deal** [4] - 17:15, 161:22, 168:9, 176:19 dealing [11] - 8:14. 37:19, 38:5, 148:21, 153:24, 161:25,

107:25, 108:19, dealt [1] - 167:15 deceased [2] - 19:5, 139:19 decide [11] - 5:10, 5:11, 5:12, 7:1, 7:3, 10:7, 11:17, 12:10, 14:16, 66:23, 161:17 decided [4] - 38:1, 163:25, 165:12, 166:25 decides [3] - 30:21. 31:18, 146:21 decision [11] - 7:7, 23:22, 40:20, 68:6, 112:8, 112:11, 112:13, 150:16, 151:19, 151:22, 156:25 decisions [2] - 6:7, 114:8 deck [2] - 81:25, 82:10 declines [1] - 28:15 **Defendant** [2] - 1:5, <u>1:18</u> Defendant's [2] -193:12, 194:1 defendant's [1] -193:24 **defense** [5] - 3:7, 18:23, 19:9, 141:2, 164:21 defer[1] - 193:25 delay [1] - 40:23 deliberate [1] - 9:12 deliberation [4] -12:1, 17:14, 44:2, 133:20 deliberations [8] -5:14, 7:23, 8:6, 9:3, 10:3, 10:5, 15:2, 143:18 deliver [1] - 120:25 delivery [2] - 60:16, 120:11 demands [1] - 14:23 demeanor [1] - 8:18 demonstrative [2] -18:16, 18:20 demoted [2] -118:10, 118:12 denies [1] - 16:7 department [7] -<u>23:18, 50:3, 145:18,</u> 147:21, 147:22, 154:16, 177:22 depended [2] -85:25, 86:10 162:1, 166:3, 166:6, dependent [1] -19:24

<u>166:7</u>

deposition [34] -2:19, 4:23, 4:25, 19:3, 28:2, 28:4, 54:20, 54:24, 55:1, 56:7, 56:9, 56:14, 56:15, 56:22, 86:23, 87:2, 87:8, 95:2, 134:7, 134:19, 135:5, 136:19, 138:19, 139:9, 139:17, 139:22, 140:1, 140:3, 140:18, 140:24, 141:13, 142:2, 143:25, 164:21 depth [1] - 34:12 deputy [6] - 7:16, 9:24, 44:20, 80:1, 144:8, 144:11 **DEPUTY** [4] - 44:21, 80:2, 138:25, 144:12 describe [4] - 60:22, 76:12, 81:22, 91:15 described [2] -130:8, 131:3 description [25] -<u>25:23, 38:3, 38:7,</u> 38:8, 38:11, 38:12<u>,</u> 38:17, 39:4, 42:2, 89:19, 90:3, 93:25, 94:7, 94:14, 94:16, 94:20, 94:23, 95:11, <u>95:22, 129:17,</u> 154:14, 189:24, 190:21, 190:25, 191:4 descriptions [3] -38:4, 119:7, 122:1 designated [2] -61:10, 64:22 desire [2] - 187:6. 189:2 desk [2] - 77:12, <u>175:15</u> destroy [1] - 10:4 detail [2] - 5:15. 173:1 detailed [1] - 16:9 details [1] - 173:25 determination [1] -38:2 determine [1] - 8:17 determined [1] -39:15 determining [1] -10:11 developed [5] - 26:6, <u>153:16, 154:15,</u> 156:6, 156:7 developing [2] -<u>26:11, 60:7</u> devices [2] - 14:8,

14:10 disagree [1] - 171:11 diagnosis [3] discharged [1] -178:19, 178:21, 12:14 178:22 disciplinary [2] died [1] - 27:25 115:7, 115:9 discipline [2] - 92:1, difference [2] -81:11, 191:4 101:20 different [16] - 35:25, disciplined [1] -36:3, 49:8, 67:23, 115:3 73:7, 73:14, 87:25, disclose [2] - 118:5, 88:3, 89:8, 98:20<u>,</u> 162:15 <u>125:4, 173:20,</u> disclosed [1] - 41:14 178:24, 186:16, discover[1] - 43:11 187:19 discovered [1] differently [1] -16<u>8:25</u> 15:12 discrepancy [2] difficult [1] - 36:11 84:8, 120:19 difficulties [3] - 93:2, discriminate [1] -93:6, 161:22 162:6 difficulty [22] - 23:7. discriminated [1] -24:13, 36:25, 39:8, <u>16:2</u> 43:10, 58:8, 58:12, discuss [12] - 13:3, <u>58:15, 58:18, 58:21,</u> 69:15, 70:12, 151:24, 68:20, 101:13, <u>152:1, 165:5, 171:7,</u> 101:18, 108:24, 171:17, 172:21, 109:2, 109:9, 126:14, 172:24, 173:24, 148:20, 150:22, 190:24 <u>160:7, 161:4, 167:11</u> discussed [7] dire [2] - 3:13, 33:8 14:11, 69:17, 136:19, Direct [3] - 2:12, 141:2, 148:16, 175:9, 2:16, 2:21 190:23 **DIRECT** [2] - 80:5, discussing [1] -<u>144:19</u> 37:25 direct [4] - 27:10, Discussion [1] -74:20, 156:18, 196:24 136:17 directly [15] - 24:9, discussion [1] -46:13, 46:22, 47:3, 187:2 47:25, 61:20, 64:1, disposal [1] - 121:13 68:12, 72:16, 72:19, disposition [1] - 73:9 110:2, 117:12, disputed [1] - 5:11 145:23, 147:12, disputes [1] - 19:16 190:17 disregard [1] - 6:22 director [8] - 22:11, disregarded [1] -24:7, 45:18, 46:21, 6:25 48:12, 60:17, 74:2, distance [3] - 17:17. 145:20 36:8, 86:20 Disabilities [2] distances [1] - 8:15 21:10, 23:3 distract [1] - 8:20 disability [26] - 16:3. distracted [1] -<u>16:4, 16:14, 25:5,</u> 141:13 28:8, 28:16, 29:14, distracting [1] - 8:17 <u>29:19, 30:1, 30:19,</u> distress [1] - 31:8 31:5, 31:19, 31:24, distribute [1] - 46:6 32:3, 32:8, 32:11, distribution [1] -35:8, 35:17, 39:17, 93:25 158:7, 158:11, distributor [2] - 46:2, 159:21, 160:9, 46:5 160:15, 177:24, 178:3 **DISTRICT** [3] - 1:1, disabled [2] - 30:14, 1:1, 1:8 32:5 **DIVISION** [1] - 1:2

dizzy[1] - 107:13 docker[1] - 172:7 doctor [17] - 38:2, 39:14, 40:4, 40:10, 40:16, 42:2, 42:3, 42:5, 70:5, 70:22, 163:6, 171:9, 171:18, 172:5, 172:7 doctors [7] - 31:13, <u>40:20, 41:24, 70:16, </u> 70:18, 73:7, 73:14 document [18] -52:10, 88:23, 89:1, 89:4, 89:17, 93:22, 94:4, 98:19, 102:24, 103:10, 104:20, 130:2, 138:9, 153:21, 153:24, 154:9, 184:11, 184:22 documented [1] -39:24 documents [4] -5:25, 141:19, 181:25 dollar [1] - 146:22 dolly [1] - 124:7 done [23] - 27:18, 60:18, 69:13, 84:13, 85:21, 98:25, 99:2, 99:3, 99:4, 99:8, 99:19, 99:20, 106:11, <u>121:10, 122:1, 130:5,</u> 133:6, 138:11, <u>155:15, 172:12,</u> <u>175:12, 179:4, 182:1</u> door[1] - 81:24 doubt [1] - 15:22 down [19] - 27:19, 30:18, 37:10, 40:9, 42:25, 61:5, 66:14, 67:23, 78:12, 91:16, 109:12, 121:14, 126:9, 128:5, 128:10, 133:6, 133:11, 169:4, 192:23 dozen [1] - 36:9 **Dr**[16] - 30:6, 30:7, 30:9, 30:11, 30:13, 30:15, 39:3, 39:10, 40:4, 42:3, 42:7, 42:9, 135:8, 136:11, 136:12, 194:4 draft [2] - 153:21, 153:23 draw [2] - 11:2, 50:12 drive [5] - 17:19, 65:4, 121:1, 124:4, 194:17 driver [3] - 60:16.

drop [3] - 127:24, 128:1 dropping [1] - 150:4 drug [1] - 152:15 drum [5] - 63:9, 63:23, 64:2, 66:13, 162:19 drums [7] - 61:3, 62:2, 62:4, 63:15, 63:24, 64:16, 101:6 duration [1] - 82:18 during [47] - 5:13, 7:12, 7:14, 7:21, 7:23, 8:5, 9:16, 10:2, 10:12, 10:17, 11:9, 11:12, 13:10, 17:23, 20:5, 23:9, 25:18, 26:22, 26:23, 27:6, 28:5, 29:6, 33:8, 33:9, 47:19, 56:8, 65:7, 74:7, 75:20, 115:23, 116:24, 140:1, 140:23, 143:17, 147:23, 148:7, 158:24, 159:4, <u>159:13, 170:14,</u> <u>176:15, 180:15,</u> 180:23, 181:5, 186:11, 186:20, 187:9 duties [38] - 4:5. 24:22, 26:3, 26:4, 27:5, 29:9, 34:17, 38:6, 38:10, 39:7, 40:14, 41:4, 52:2, 52:16, 85:18, 92:5, 92:7, 92:24, 97:9, 109:6, 109:10, 119:1, 119:15, 121:7, 121:8, 129:18, 131:22, 132:17, 145:16, 162:23, 162:25, <u>167:2, 169:16,</u> <u>176:19, 187:22,</u> 191:2, 192:7 duty [10] - 5:17. 10:19, 34:24, 41:1, 43:12, 73:12, 145:5, 145:6, 163:10, 187:7

Ε

e-mail [1] - 12:25 Eagle [1] - 1:20 early [4] - 36:2. 41:13, 117:14, 194:10 earn [1] - 29:16 easier [1] - 78:2 East [1] - 1:16 eastern [1] - 80:10 easy [1] - 108:10 eating [1] - 159:14

64:23

economy [1] - 31:5 EEOC [3] - 181:19, <u>181:25, 182:21</u> effect [2] - 68:19, 167:13 effects [1] - 107:13 efficient [1] - 151:14 efficiently [1] - 27:17 eight [4] - 39:1, 64:13, 65:7, 82:1 eighty [5] - 36:7, 36:10, 37:8, 67:2, 127:3 either [11] - 11:14, 17:23, 56:4, 71:9, 71:24, 120:6, 134:20, 145:12, 148:11, 169:18, 184:11 eleven [1] - 27:14 **ELMO**[2] - 138:5, <u> 138:8</u> else-wise [1] - 167:5 employed [2] - 45:9. 57:13 employee [36] - 21:3, 23:5, 23:7, 24:16, 33:21, 34:1, 34:18, 37:4, 42:19, 43:5, 43:8, 57:18, 58:8, 58:21, 86:14, 90:6, 90:12, 97:6, 109:17, 146:20, 150:21, 151:8, 151:16, 152:11, 156:16, 160:14, 161:19, 161:20, 162:5, 167:15, 167:25, 177:9, 178:4, 179:5, 179:7, 180:6 employee's [2] -27:16, 35:5 employees [27] -23:25, 35:2, 35:8, 35:18, 36:24, 37:<u>21,</u> 41:3, 84:23, 84:25, 94:14, 94:17, 94:18, 94:21, 109:13, 145:8, 146:2, 150:18, 152:5, 152:6, 152:9, 152:14, 154:24, 156:9, 160:21, 167:7, 168:3, 178:25 employer [3] - 21:3, 21:8, 23:4 employer's [2] -21:6, 23:6 employment [18] -18:3, 23:25, 30:24, 31:2, 34:9, 34:15,

42:14, 42:16, 74:8,

80:25, 107:24, 148:5, 27:22, 70:22, 71:10, 152:6, 156:15, 162:9, 174:2, 176:25, 180:18 empty [1] - 121:12 end [26] - 6:8, 7:6, 9:23, 10:10, 12:9, 15:3, 16:9, 16:11, 17:25, 22:25, 25:10, 27:20, 31:6, 31:7, 32:7, 33:9, 36:1, 42:13, 106:14, 107:24, 108:6, 117:14, 127:21, 131:9, 163:15, 175:20 endangered [2] -43:4, 43:5 ended [4] - 12:13, <u>21:7, 174:12, 175:22</u> ends [3] - 10:1, 33:17, 83:19 engaged [2] - 16:13, 145:11 engine [1] - 78:5 enjoyed [1] - 170:11 ensure [1] - 12:6 entered [1] - 98:22 entire [4] - 82:18, <u>114:4, 135:5, 136:21</u> entitled [1] - 5:1 envision [1] - 65:21 equal [1] - 109:25 Equipment [19] - 2:1, 4:15, 4:18, 4:21, 15:6, 15:15, 15:19, 16:1, 16:7, 16:12, 21:9, 29:4, 45:10, 45:25, 51:16, 144:23, 145:3, 181:3, 196:1 equipment [2] -51:23, 52:16 **EQUIPMENT**[1] -<u>1:5</u> error[1] - 11:19 escort [6] - 18:7. 18:11, 44:4, 133:23, 138:23, 194:18 especially [1] - 38:5 Esq [3] - 1:12, 1:15, 1:19 essence [1] - 130:3 essential [3] - 25:12, 39:6, 40:13 essentially [2] -38:22, 137:17

established [2] -

evaluation [40] -

18:22, 27:1, 27:9,

evaluate [2] - 27:16,

182:13, 182:17

71:12, 71:14, 71:17, 71:21, 71:25, 102:1, 102:4, 102:7, 102:12, 103:24, 104:8, 104:16, 105:8, 105:15, 105:16, 106:25, 107:2, 107:4, 110:9, 110:11, 111:11, 113:9, 113:14, 154:2, 154:6, 155:20, 156:12, 156:21, 157:9, 157:10, 167:1, 171:10, 173:22, 191:16 evaluations [4] -22:5, 142:14, 142:18, 142:21 event [5] - 35:9, 35:13, 112:5, 156:23, 178:1 events [1] - 12:23 eventually [1] -162:24 evidence [45] - 4:8, 4:10, 4:13, 4:19, 5:3, <u>5:5, 5:7, 5:17, 5:23,</u> 6:4, 6:5, 6:10, 6:13, 6:14, 6:16, 6:19, 6:20, 6:22, 6:25, 7:1, 7:5, 7:8, 7:12, 7:14, 9:7, 9:15, 9:17, 10:15, 10:21, 11:17, 11:18, 12:5, 14:15, 14:17, 14:21, 14:23, 14:25, 15:9, 15:11, 15:13, 15:14, 19:20, 25:22, 36:2, 196:9 evidentiary [1] -11:24 exact [3] - 107:20, 146:5, 156:22 exactly [4] - 68:21, <u>164:4, 175:3, 177:20</u> exam [18] - 25:18, 26:22, 31:10, 40:12, 43:11, 70:21, 72:5, 118:2, 126:17, 128:17, 157:2, 165:13, 166:11, 171:24, 172:16, 174:16, 179:24 EXAMINATION [5] -59:4, 80:5, 116:7, 144:19, 160:2 examination [24] -2:12, 2:12, 2:16, 2:16, 2:21, 2:21, 23:23, 24:10, 24:23, 25:7,

26:23, 79:17, 79:24, 149:14, 149:16, 149:18, 151:20, 153:5, 157:6, 157:19, 157:23, 159:25, 166:13, 179:8 Examination [1] -2:13 examinations [1] -25:19 examine [5] - 4:16, 4:20, 171:18, 171:19, 174:14 examined [4] -24:20, 39:3, 42:4, 128:15 examining [1] -39:14 example [2] - 84:6, 88:10 exams [3] - 26:18, 73:12, 156:5 except [2] - 99:9, <u> 153:11</u> exception [1] -119:13 excess [1] - 101:2 exchange [2] -<u>18:18, 183:17</u> excluded [1] - 6:21 excluding [1] - 6:10 excuse [2] - 82:3, 127:12 excused[1] - 78:24 excusing [1] - 16:19 exemplary [1] -<u>151:8</u> exercise [2] - 170:7, 170:8 Exhibit [32] - 51:13, 59:7, 88:21, 93:13, 93:14, 95:17, 95:18, 96:3, 101:17, 102:18, 105:12, 105:13, 106:17, 118:22, 129:16, 142:4, 142:10, 152:23, 185:9, 189:6, 190:7, <u>191:14, 191:17,</u> 193:9, 193:10, 193:21, 193:23, 193:24, 194:2 exhibit [7] - 6:6, 27:6, 95:16, 137:22, 182:3, 184:17, 185:2 Exhibits [2] - 138:4, 193:1 exhibits [15] - 6:1, 18:16, 18:20, 20:5, 138:18, 138:24,

139:7, 140:21, 140:23, 141:1, 143:9, 143:17, 143:24, 193:5, 193:7 existed [1] - 187:8 exonerate [1] -164:23 expect [3] - 89:23. 90:18, 134:17 expected [1] -122:10 expects [1] - 4:10 expeditiously [1] -12:4 experience [2] -13:1, 60:24 explain [4] - 32:10, 146:18, 161:1, 161:14 explained [3] -163:22, 164:5, 186:17 explaining [2] - 5:5, 30:10 explanation [1] -188:18 express [3] - 10:13, 54:3, 187:6 expressed [3] - 69:8, 170:4, 172:3 expressing [2] -108:13, 189:2 extent [4] - 45:6. 112:19, 171:12, 182:21 extravagant [1] -33:2 extricated [1] -137:18 eye [2] - 34:13

face [1] - 121:20 Facebook [1] - 13:2 faces [1] - 36:6 facility [3] - 165:16, <u>165:17, 170:13</u> facing [1] - 31:8 fact [21] - 5:11, 20:2, 34:2, 36:14, 37:19, 38:15, 87:7, 118:5, 123:22, 127:10, 127:14, 132:23, 134:11, 142:12, 151:7, 159:18, 170:11, 178:19, 179:22, 183:7, 184:5 factor [1] - 150:15 facts [6] - 5:18, 5:19, <u>5:20, 5:24, 6:2, 7:4</u> failed [4] - 16:3.

25:3, 25:6, 72:4 fails [1] - 15:18 fair [5] - 93:24, 110:24, 116:1, 130:12, 150:17 fairly [1] - 12:20 fairness [1] - 12:6 faithfully [1] - 32:16 false [4] - 21:7, 23:6, 23:10 familiar [1] - 48:19 family [4] - 12:15, 17:23, 35:6, 158:4 **Family** [3] - 35:4, 35:13, 39:16 far [11] - 38:14, <u>41:16, 43:25, 63:19,</u> <u>79:4, 86:17, 94:18, </u> 122:15, 133:18, <u>180:19, 181:17</u> fashion [2] - 26:16, 140:8 fast [1] - 54:13 fault [2] - 170:5 favor [1] - 11:7 favorable [2] - 15:13. 15:14 favoring [1] - 11:7 feared [1] - 159:10 fears [3] - 21:7, 23:6, 23:10 February [32] -21:11, 22:17, 24:2, 25:16, 25:19, 26:1, 39:5, 52:20, 53:25, <u>57:17, 75:21, 80:18,</u> 90:22, 99:24, 100:19, 101:12, 110:12, 148:2, 149:14, 149:21, 150:21, 153:5, 155:23, <u>156:19, 157:6,</u> 157:13, 176:10, 179:20, 179:24, 186:14, 190:8 federal [2] - 31:20, 31:22 feet [10] - 36:7, 36:10, 37:8, 64:12, 67:2, 81:25, 82:9, 86:21, 126:3, 127:3 fellow [4] - 8:1, 9:2, 9:4. 9:15 felt [12] - 92:4, 112:20, 169:17, 171:4, 172:4, 172:6, 172:11, 173:3, 173:4, 174:13, 175:23, 175:25 fertile [1] - 79:23

few [10] - 26:6, 30:8, 30:23, 32:20, 51:4, 53:2, 72:12, 145:25, 147:17, 147:24 fifteen [3] - 43:19, 67:2. 82:3 fifth [1] - 14:4 fifty [2] - 123:5, 146:22 file [4] - 101:23, <u>150:5, 178:11, 178:14</u> filed [2] - 15:7, 181:20 fill [4] - 30:3, 30:11, 61:16, 120:22 filled [5] - 40:6, 153:1<u>1, 154:2,</u> 176:11, 193:10 filling [1] - 160:23 fills [1] - 30:16 final [5] - 44:2, 73:9, 105:16, 133:20, 143:18 finally [8] - 5:8, 9:18, 12:6, 14:20, 36:21, 66:22, 68:5, 174:8 financial [1] - 31:8 fine [4] - 128:10, 136:8, 138:2, 141:7 finish [2] - 17:7, 188:1 finished [1] - 143:23 fires [1] - 29:3 first [37] - 4:6, 6:17, 8:8, 12:7, 20:21, 30:2, 34:3, 35:25, 41:14, 43:21, 44:7, 53:23, <u>68:5, 68:9, 68:15,</u> 69:9, 70:3, 80:22, 80:25, 85:5, 85:9, 106:4, 107:21, 112:20, 143:1, 152:2, <u>153:11, 161:3, 167:9,</u> 175:21, 182:12, 184:4, 189:15, 189:17, 189:22, 190:19 fit [7] - 32:22, 41:1, 43:11, 73:12, 189:25, 190:22, 192:15 five [11] - 40:17, 51:2, 66:1, 66:21, 73:5, 84:15, 85:24, <u>117:2, 117:5, 117:7</u> flatbed [2] - 124:25, 125:3 fleets [1] - 46:7 flexibility [1] - 11:23

floor [4] - 3:15, 3:18,

121:9, 121:12

FMLA_[4] - 162:3, 177:23, 178:7, 178:9 follow [6] - 5:16. 5:21, 6:15, 73:22, 172:15, 191:12 follow-up [3] - 73:22, 172:15, 191:12 followed [4] - 135:6, <u>135:7, 135:8, 136:10</u> following [4] - 9:25, 12:7, 14:1, 188:17 follows [1] - 4:6 **food** [1] - 170:11 foot [10] - 50:5, 67:20, 67:25, 76:15, 82:2, 82:3, 82:7, 82:11 FOR [1] - 1:1 force [3] - 39:19, 158:10, 160:14 forced [1] - 134:21 foregoing [1] -196:22 foregone [2] - 31:14, 31:17 forklift [48] - 21:21, 37:10, 57:23, 60:15, 64:14, 64:15, 64:18, 64:20, 64:23, 65:2, 65:3, 65:6, 67:5, 67:7, 67:9, 67:11, 67:18, 69:12, 74:15, 74:17, 74:22, 75:8, 75:9, 75:18, 75:25, 76:17, 77:7, 78:3, 78:4, 88:11, 98:4, 98:7, 99:18, 114:17, 115:11, 121:6, 124:3, 129:3, 130:12, 130:20, 131:1, 131:14, 132:24, 132:25, 149:8, 149:19, 150:13, 150:19 forklifts [2] - 65:4. 124:1 forks [3] - 76:23. 77:21, 125:23 form [35] - 10:13, 14:20, 24:17, 24:24, 25:23, 26:11, 27:3, 29:9, 30:3, 30:9, 30:11, 30:16, 35:12, 40:7, 41:8, 51:20, 62:17, 148:18, 153:3, 153:7, 153:10, 153:14, 153:16, 153:25, 154:4, <u>154:20, 155:10,</u> 155:14, 155:25,

156:4, 156:8, 156:10, 179:25, 191:21, 193:11 formed [1] - 179:22 forms_[5] - 22:20, 22:22, 35:15, 39:16, 178:1 formulate [1] -183:16 forward [6] - 12:4, 44:10, 61:14, 140:11, <u>144:7, 161:16</u> foundation [5] -60:2, 182:13, 184:3, 184:15, 184:16 four [5] - 16:18, 62:14, 76:15, 124:22 four-wheeled [1] -124:22 fourth [4] - 6:23, 9:18, 14:2, 102:15 frame [11] - 91:11, 91:12, 91:23, 92:21, 99:11, 99:13, 112:2, 126:16, 126:19, 180:20, 190:14 frankly [4] - 26:14, <u>164:4, 169:16, 174:12</u> free [2] - 45:5, 169:25 frequent [2] - 84:19, 97:3 frequently [5] -38:23, 62:20, 64:6, 89:18, 90:11 friends [1] - 12:15 front [9] - 59:8, 83:18, 86:18, 95:16, 99:4, 99:5, 102:24, <u>116:12, 121:21</u> **frustrated** [1] - 28:25 full [8] - 21:25, 24:4, 34:24, 44:22, 80:3, 144:13, 162:25, 163:10 full-time [1] - 21:25 fully [1] - 196:9 function [1] - 114:3 functional [1] - 26:25 functions [1] - 25:13 future [2] - 179:5, <u>179:17</u>

<u>G</u>

gallery [1] - 44:13 garages [1] - 46:7 gas [2] - 67:20, 68:1 gauge [1] - 115:20 general [5] - 101:4. 146:3, 146:8, 155:2, 156:14 gentleman [1] -143:16 gentlemen [14] -3:11, 4:1, 10:6, 18:7, 20:17, 21:1, 33:15, 43:17, 102:23, 133:14, 139:15, 140:22, 141:9, 194:7 gist [1] - 70:9 given [14] - 7:19, 7:25, 20:1, 34:14, <u>35:12, 39:16, 115:14,</u> <u>135:9, 138:7, 140:1,</u> 140:9, 141:14, 146:3, 191:22 glad[1] - 56:17 Goldberg [1] - 1:12 Google [1] - 14:9 gout [1] - 162:1 govern [1] - 14:14 government [2] -31:20, 31:22 grants [1] - 31:22 great [3] - 32:22, 33:21, 160:7 greeted [2] - 24:6, 25:1 ground [3] - 76:23, 77:3, 79:24 group [3] - 164:2. 173:19, 192:1 grunt [1] - 31:4 guess [3] - 19:13, 55:21, 99:13 guy [8] - 21:2, 21:5,

<u>H</u>

21:8, 28:19, 33:24,

33:25, 179:6

habits [1] - 159:14 half [12] - 21:18, 21:21, 24:5, 28:14, 28:22, 36:9, 49:1, 115:25, 135:23, <u>145:2, 146:25, 158:19</u> hallway [2] - 13:23, 131:13 hand [13] - 7:10, 76:19, 88:11, 99:19, 103:13, 105:20, 106:18, 107:7, 124:1, 124:6, 124:10, 131:6, 131:7 handheld [1] - 14:8 handle [4] - 49:21, 125:2, 161:17, 164:4

hands [7] - 125:20,

C

175:12, 175:13, 175:14, 175:15, 176:8, 187:15 handwriting [2] -153:12, 193:13 handwritten [1] -41:9 happy [2] - 134:10, 174:10 hard [8] - 28:13, 33:20, 35:20, 37:5, 78:1, 93:9, 138:6, 168:4 hardworking [3] -21:2, 33:25, 43:8 HARRISBURG [1] -1:2 Harrisburg [4] - 1:5, 1:13, 1:25, 164:2 hate [1] - 49:20 head [1] - 100:14 headed [1] - 154:16 heads [1] - 62:13 health [4] - 160:10, 172:5, 172:13, 176:2 hear [16] - 6:11, 7:9, 14:17, 22:2, 23:14, 26:5, 34:6, 36:1, 36:5, 36:22, 38:21, 39:22, 41:21, 43:2, 114:19, 128:12 heard [14] - 6:24, 10:14, 15:21, 19:21, 35:4, 43:25, 57:25, 58:1, 58:2, 114:22, 115:1, 128:8, 133:18, 194:14 hearing [2] - 11:14, 148:17 hearsay [1] - 70:24 heaviest [4] - 86:4, 86:6, 86:8, 87:11 heavy [12] - 34:5, 37:14, 37:20, 76:4, 76:16, 119:14, 119:22, 145:5, 145:6, <u>180:7, 180:12, 187:7</u> heck [1] - 72:16 height [1] - 82:8 held [8] - 42:12, <u>45:19, 54:22, 60:15,</u> 80:12, 82:22, 136:17, 162:8 hello_[1] - 59:6 help [6] - 4:9, 22:2, 63:2, 63:15, 122:24, 153:23 helped [1] - 183:15 helpful_[1] - 8:14 helping [4] - 65:12,

123:20, 123:24, 153:21 hereby [1] - 196:8 hesitant [2] - 67:5, 75:9 hi [1] - 45:1 high [6] - 63:12, 63:13, 81:25, 82:2, 82:3, 82:6 highlighted [2] -87:7, 95:5 highlights [1] - 9:9 highly [1] - 151:7 himself [22] - 22:9, 22:24, 33:4, 38:15, 54:8, 54:16, 55:9, 55:15, 55:19, 69:10, 100:15, 108:12, 127:22, 131:25, 132:4, 132:10, 149:2, 151:1, 169:18, 179:21, 180:3, 180:11 HIPAA [1] - 162:3 hire [2] - 34:17, 156:16 hired [3] - 34:18, 93:18, 162:17 hit[1] - 132:5 Hoffman [81] - 2:11, 22:10, 22:13, 22:14, 22:18, 22:20, 23:13, 23:15, 24:6, 24:7, 24:17, 25:1, 28:6, 28:10, 34:15, 35:12, 36:5, 36:21, 39:11, 39:12, 40:1, 44:8, 44:9, 44:19, 44:23, 44:25, 45:9, 48:5, 48:12, 51:17, 54:20, 56:21, 57:11, 59:5, 59:7, 60:2, 60:10, 71:9, 71:25, 73:24, 78:18, 83:5, 109:20, 109:24, 109:25, 110:2. 110:4. 110:21. 110:25, 111:17, 111:20, 111:23, 112:4, 126:23, 135:3, 135:4, 135:15, 136:7, 145:20, 148:4, 148:8, 148:9, 148:13, 148:18, 149:23, 1<u>51:18, 154:16,</u> 156:18, 157:1, 157:17, 157:25, 158:3, 161:9, 161:10, 162:13, 163:23, 165:10, 166:14, <u>169:24, 180:2, 189:1</u>3 Hoffman's [3] -

83:13, 83:16, 147:14 Hold [2] - 56:12, 164:7 hold [3] - 81:1, 164:7, 187:25 holds [1] - 76:16 home [10] - 17:25, 18:2, 18:10, 21:4, 25:4, 28:9, 28:23, 46:11, 194:15, 194:17 honest [1] - 33:24 honestly [3] -152:19, 158:18, 175:1 **Honor** [54] - 3:6, 3:7, 3:25, 20:7, 20:14, 20:24, 33:14, 44:11, 45:2, 45:8, 49:25, 56:10, 56:13, 59:2, 60:1, 60:9, 73:21, 77:14, 78:10, 78:18, 79:11, 105:22, 116:5, 116:8, 129:15, 132:13, 132:16, 133:9, 134:5, 134:15, <u>135:1, 136:4, 137:1,</u> 137:2, 138:4, 138:21, 140:12, 140:20, 141:5, 141:18, 142:12, 144:17, 160:1, 164:9, 164:14, <u>164:17, 182:24,</u> <u>184:3, 184:14,</u> 185:14, 190:6, 191:9, <u>191:12, 193:15</u> HONORABLE [1] -<u>1:8</u> hopefully [1] -102:23 hoping [1] - 41:5 hour [10] - 16:24, 17:24, 28:22, 43:19, 55:3, 65:7, 134:18, 135:23, 135:25, 158:19 hours [7] - 39:1, 64:13, 84:14, 117:3, 117:5, 117:7, 126:3 house [1] - 86:12 housekeeping [2] -121:7 houses [1] - 81:13 HR[1] - 94:24 human [6] - 23:18, 24:7, 48:12, 69:3, 145:17, 145:21 hundred [5] - 62:13. 62:14, 86:21, 100:8, 145:8 hurt [3] - 67:15, 69:10, 69:11

131:25, 132:3 hydraulic [1] - 77:1 idea [5] - 16:20, 18:1, 165:25, 166:3, 166:9 identification [1] -102:10 identified [4] - 101:9, 152:23, 193:5, 193:12 identify [5] - 102:11, 104:15, 105:13, 185:1, 185:8 identities [1] - 8:15 **ill** [2] - 35:7, 35:12 illegal [1] - 23:4 illness_[1] - 35:7 imagining [1] - 125:2 immediate [3] - 57:6, 82:24, 161:24 immediately [7] -7:10, 16:16, 24:11, 120:18, 149:6, 157:10, 172:19 impact [1] - 127:19 impeachment [2] -182:4, 182:6 implements [1] -88:6 important [3] - 8:23, 129:8, 129:9 impression [7] -22:20, 22:22, 53:16, 54:3, 55:19, 75:8, 148:19 impressions [3] -23:11, 55:24, 56:3 **improper** [1] - 13:17 improve [2] - 41:6, 160:10 improved [2] - 43:14, 176:4 improves [3] - 40:3, 42:17, 42:18 IN [1] - 1:1 inability [1] - 170:21 inaccurate [2] - 26:2. 59:22 incidences [1] -112:2 incident [9] - 57:11, 75:18, 91:18, 91:19, 132:2, 150:6, 162:18, 162:22, 176:7 incidents [2] -150:11, 150:25 included [3] - 33:5,

<u>155:9, 156:14</u>

hurting [3] - 127:21,

includes [2] - 12:14, 14:6 including [5] - 13:20, 14:9, 14:19, 46:14, 67:22 income [1] - 35:10 incoming [1] - 21:19 incorrectly [1] - 22:8 increase [1] - 115:23 independent [7] -40:12, 40:16, 165:15, 165:17, 172:7, 172:10, 194:13 index [1] - 115:19 indicate [4] - 11:10, 69:23, 134:8, 186:10 indicated [7] - 20:17, <u>32:14, 74:16, 115:10,</u> 135:3, 177:17, 178:11 indicates [2] - 27:22, <u>89:4</u> indicating [4] -11:11, 30:16, 109:9, 188:4 indication [1] - 166:6 individual [4] -13:15, 123:2, 123:16, 139:21 individual's [1] -17:10 individually [2] -141:10, 173:7 individuals [1] -13:19 indulge [1] - 191:13 industry [1] - 60:14 infantry [1] - 32:17 infer[1] - 11:4 **inferences** [1] - 11:3 influence [1] - 14:22 inform [1] - 120:18 information [27] -13:1, 14:13, 19:22, 25:15, 26:12, 29:3, 34:14, 39:11, 39:23, 51:22, 52:1, 88:25, 117:22, 147:18, <u>148:17, 162:8,</u> 182:10, 183:4, 183:15, 183:17, 184:11, 185:18, 186:2, 186:3, 187:13, 188:21, 194:3 initiated [2] - 167:14, 167:16 injure [2] - 169:18 injured [1] - 152:10 injuring [1] - 132:10 injury [2] - 154:3. 163:20

38:6, 38:8, 38:11,

39:4, 39:7, 40:14,

38:12, 38:17, 38:21,

input [14] - 26:8, 26:9, 26:11, 51:19, 52:4, 52:9, 52:15, 52:17, 60:6, 94:3, 154:11, 154:18, 154:25, 155:4 inside [1] - 170:18 instead [2] - 8:3, 159:20 instruct [7] - 5:8, <u>5:15, 6:3, 10:10,</u> <u>25:11, 32:6, 157:1</u> instructed [5] - 6:13, <u>156:25, 158:3, 158:6,</u> 167:3 instruction [4] -6:16, 12:20, 14:12, 79:13 instructions [17] -2:7, 3:18, 3:21, 4:4, 7:15, 10:16, 14:1, 15:1, 16:9, 19:16, 23:1, 23:2, 43:23, <u>133:16, 139:18,</u> <u>157:18, 194:1</u>2 integrity [1] - 10:5 intend [2] - 20:5, 139:8 <u>intended [1] - 11:10</u> intending [1] - 184:7 intent[1] - 167:22 interact [2] - 68:13, 181:18 intercession [1] -112:22 interests [1] - 37:17 interim [1] - 176:14 internet [2] - 12:22, 14:6 interpretation [1] -89:12 interpreted [1] interrupt [1] - 49:20 intervals [2] - 40:18, 40:19 intoxicated [1] -107:12 introduce [1] - 4:18 introduced [5] -4:20, 19:20, 139:1, 139:2, 140:23 inventory [5] - 84:8, <u>98:15, 98:18, 98:23, </u> 99:6 invest [1] - 165:19 investigation [1] invite[1] - 20:22 invited [1] - 177:1

involve [2] - 19:16 involved [11] - 12:9, 12:12, 13:4, 13:12, 14:3, 97:24, 114:10, 153:21, 155:19, 162:18, 173:22 involving [1] -150:19 issue [9] - 22:5, <u>36:16, 37:1, 134:5, </u> <u>153:25, 159:6,</u> <u>162:16, 166:4, 186:4</u> issues [7] - 5:11, 11:24, 13:4, 18:19, 114:4, 114:6, 164:3 item [12] - 6:14, 86:4, 86:8, 86:15, 86:17, 87:12, 88:8, 99:22, 100:2, 100:4, 130:20, 131:18 items [15] - 76:4, 88:14, 88:16, 90:23, 91:1, 99:25, 100:20, 100:24, 101:1, 101:5, 101:8, 101:16, 131:22, 150:4, 150:12 itself [9] - 4:3, 11:4, <u>38:14, 71:14, 77:22,</u> <u>113:14, 138:8,</u> 166:17, 190:25

J

jack [14] - 65:11,

76:18, 76:19, 76:22,

77:15, 77:21, 77:24, 78:3, 78:6, 88:12, 99:20, 125:16, 125:21, 131:7 jacks [2] - 76:6, 124:2 January [13] - 22:17, 27:12, 28:3, 52:20, 54:22, 56:7, 75:21, 81:21, 95:3, 107:4, 107:5, 140:4, 140:5 January-February [1] - 75:21 Job [1] - 51:15 job [152] - 21:18, 22:4, 22:6, 22:23, 23:20, 24:14, 24:15, 24:21, 25:7, 25:13, 25:22, 25:23, 26:2, 26:3, 26:4, 26:6, 26:15, 27:3, 27:4, 27:21, 27:24, 28:13, 29:1, 29:8, 29:9, 30:25, 31:4, 32:21, 33:22, 34:4, 35:5, 35:24, 38:2, 38:4,

41:2, 41:10, 41:21, 41:22, 41:23, 41:24, 42:1, 42:8, 42:10, 42:12, 42:24, 42:25, 51:19, 59:11, 60:7, 60:24, 61:3, 62:17, 64:10, 69:21, 69:25, 70:7, 72:11, 72:16, 73:8, 82:22, 85:23, 87:23, 88:3, 88:22, 89:11, 93:24, 94:7, 94:13, 94:16, 94:20, 94:23, 95:11, 95:21, 97:6, 97:12, 97:15, 109:6, 117:18, 117:21, 118:17, 118:24, 119:7, 127:20, 129:8, 129:17, 130:5, 133:5, 145:16, 147:25, 148:20, 149:24, 150:9, 152:10, 154:5, 154:12, 154:20, <u>155:1, 155:10,</u> 155:14, 155:25, 156:3, 159:1, 159:3, 166:1, 166:18, 167:2, 167:20, 170:4, 171:3, 171:5, 172:12, <u>172:24, 175:16,</u> 175:24, 176:9, 177:11, 179:2, 180:23, 181:5, 181:7, 181:10, 181:15, 181:16, 187:3, 188:3, <u>189:24, 190:21,</u> 190:25, 191:1, 191:4, <u>191:7, 191:17,</u> 191:21, 191:22, 191:25, 192:3, 192:6, 192:7, 193:13 jobs [4] - 30:23, 32:20, 175:11, 176:17 John [3] - 2:15, 79:25, 80:4 Johnstown [1] -72:12 Joseph [1] - 134:5 JUDGE [1] - 1:8 Judge [3] - 22:25, 25:10, 32:6 judge [2] - 12:19, 32:6 judgement [1] -123:19

jump [1] - 64:17 jumping[1] - 49:23 juncture [2] - 176:2, 181:16 June [6] - 80:24, 180:20, 180:21, 181:13, 184:19, 184:21 juror [3] - 9:4, 12:16 **JUROR** [1] - 143:5 jurors [6] - 4:5, 8:2, 9:2, 9:15, 12:6, 12:14 jurors' [1] - 9:1 JURY [1] - 1:7 Jury [2] - 2:2, 196:3 jury [47] - 3:2, 3:4, 3:9, 3:10, 3:21, 4:2, 9:21, 9:22, 12:1, 12:10, 12:24, 13:1, <u>13:3, 17:13, 18:7,</u> <u>18:11, 18:14, 18:22,</u> 19:21, 20:22, 20:23, 21:1, 33:13, 44:4, 60:22, 76:12, 102:18, 105:23, 133:24, 134:10, 138:3, 138:6, 138:23, 139:13, <u>141:6, 143:11,</u> <u>143:23, 146:18,</u> <u>161:1, 161:14, 170:1,</u> <u>171:21, 175:8, 184:8,</u> 189:23, 194:18, 194:20 jury's [1] - 124:20 justice [1] - 15:16

K

Katzman [1] - 1:12 Kearn [2] - 135:8, 136:11 **keep** [11] - 8:4, 8:8, 10:12, 11:20, 12:1, 13:19, 16:10, 21:20, 41:2, 168:2, 176:9 Keep [1] - 15:1 keg [1] - 43:6 kept [3] - 35:24, 41:1, 123:1 kind [25] - 35:22, 35:23, 50:9, 60:19, 61:16, 62:7, 62:9, 64:4, 65:20, 69:17, 69:21, 72:7, 78:1, 99:22, 100:24, 101:4, 107:13, 117:24, <u>118:7, 121:7, 156:11,</u> <u>156:15, 162:15,</u> 187:21, 189:19 kinds [2] - 69:24.

162:3 Kline [48] - 2:19, 19:3, 27:9, 27:13, 27:18, 27:25, 47:3, 49:4, 56:1, 57:6, 68:12, 72:19, 74:10, 74:20, 75:17, 83:1, 97:19, 97:20, 99:11, 106:22, 109:8, 109:11, 109:16, 114:23, 114:24, <u>115:3, 117:9, 117:15,</u> 117:24, 118:3, 118:8, 128:14, 128:16, 128:19, 134:7, 134:12, 134:18, 135:4, 135:15, 139:19, 140:1, 140:18, 143:25, 149:5, 149:7, 149:11, 149:17, 151:11 Kline's [8] - 19:2, 83:4, 107:9, 134:16, 136:19, 138:18, 139:8, 139:21 knee [4] - 30:8, 40:22, 42:21, 129:4 knees [8] - 21:23, 36:16, 41:10, 108:4, 108:5, 108:8, 108:9, knocked [1] - 129:5 knowing [3] - 37:21, 38:20, 100:9 knowledge [12] -60:24, 108:18, 108:21, 109:5, 112:4, <u>151:10, 154:17,</u> <u>154:23, 155:2,</u> <u>155:12, 165:24, 167:8</u> knowledgeable [2] -33:21, 35:20 known [1] - 182:2

L

knows [4] - 28:13,

29:1, 60:3

| labeled [1] - 62:1 | labored [1] - 93:8 | laboring [1] - 111:9 | ladder [1] - 65:25 | ladders [3] - 66:2, | 121:22 | ladies [13] - 3:11, | 10:6, 18:7, 20:16, | 20:25, 43:17, 102:23, | 133:14, 139:14, | 140:22, 141:9, | 143:16, 194:7 | Ladies [2] - 4:1,

judges [1] - 5:18

July [1] - 86:23

33:14 lading [1] - 98:18 ladles [1] - 101:9 laid [1] - 60:2 lamps [1] - 62:11 landed [1] - 32:21 landing [1] - 30:25 large [1] - 75:2 larger [1] - 47:15 last [8] - 16:18, 18:22, 24:5, 27:9, 27:25, 28:14, 160:3, 189:21 **Law** [1] - 1:15 law [13] - 5:8, 5:12, <u>5:16, 5:20, 5:21, 7:15,</u> 10:17, 14:22, 16:9, 23:1, 29:10, 35:3, 35:17 lawsuit [3] - 15:5. <u>15:7, 32:9</u> lawyer_[4] - 7:9, 10:21, 10:24, 10:25 lawyer's [1] - 10:24 lawyers [5] - 6:2, 6:18, 10:19, 13:11, 13:21 lay[1] - 184:16 layout [1] - 81:22 lazy [1] - 118:19 lead [3] - 97:18, 99:12, 161:16 learn [1] - 70:20 least [5] - 78:25, 87:18, 123:8, 123:10, 123:13 **Leave** [3] - 35:4, 35:13, 39:16 leave [21] - 9:21, <u>34:21, 34:22, 39:13,</u> 72:22, 72:23, 72:25, 149:13, 157:16, <u>158:2, 158:4, 167:4,</u> <u>167:7, 167:20, 168:7,</u> <u>169:6, 174:8, 177:18,</u> <u>178:9, 178:12, 190:1</u> left [8] - 34:13, 73:9, 103:13, 107:7, 113:21, 162:21, 174:9 left-hand [2] -103:13, 107:7 legs [1] - 66:14 lend [1] - 138:8 length [2] - 11:20, 17:9 less [1] - 9:3 letter [36] - 29:4, 29:5, 29:7, 30:10, 40:2, 41:13, 42:15, 174:19, 174:20,

174:23, 174:24, 175:3, 175:4, 176:12, 180:17, 183:19, 184:18, 184:20, 185:17, 185:18, 185:22, 186:9, 186:13, 186:19, 187:4, 187:22, 188:16, 188:19, 188:20, 188:21, 188:22, 189:1, 189:10, 189:12, 190:7, 190:15 letters [5] - 39:24, 39:25, 189:4, 189:5 level [7] - 12:3, 81:25, 82:4, 82:6, 82:7, 112:21, 130:13 life [4] - 23:8, 33:3, 33:4, 33:6 lifestyle [4] - 33:3. <u>159:15, 170:10,</u> 170:17 lift [42] - 26:21, 39:8, 40:9, 62:23, 63:4, 63:12, 66:14, 66:15, 76:18, 77:1, 77:3, 86:1, 86:5, 86:9, 86:12, 87:12, 87:18, 89:13, 89:17, 89:24, 90:17, 97:1, 100:3, 100:15, 122:11, 122:16, 123:5, 123:7, 123:8, 123:10, 123:23, 124:17, 129:18, 129:25, 130:7, 130:9, 130:13, 130:19, 131:22, 132:19, 132:25 lifted [4] - 77:19, 86:6, 89:10, 100:13 lifting [26] - 34:7, 38:22, 38:25, 58:9, 62:20, 63:8, 66:5, 66:12, 67:15, 76:19, 89:4, 89:12, 89:16, 90:22, 99:25, 100:6, 100:8, 119:14, 119:22, 119:25, 122:9, 122:15, 122:25, 150:22, 180:7 lifts [1] - 66:9 light [2] - 15:10, 62:11 likely [1] - 15:12 limited [1] - 6:15 limp [2] - 53:6, 53:8 line [12] - 45:3, 55:11, 56:11, 56:23,

87:5, 87:6, 87:7, 95:3,

135:2, 135:9, 135:10, 135:17 line-up [3] - 135:2, 135:9, 135:10 lines [1] - 145:12 list [1] - 9:9 listed [4] - 52:5, 154:12, 154:20, 155:1 listen [2] - 8:3, 14:2 lists [1] - 106:7 litigation [1] - 93:20 live [1] - 140:9 lived [2] - 33:2, 170:9 living [1] - 115:19 load [3] - 63:11. 64:21, 120:11 loading [2] - 64:19, 98:1 located [7] - 49:7, 83:11, 120:2, 120:6, 147:13, 147:14, 147:22 location [17] - 21:12, 21:16, 24:19, 46:9, 46:15, 47:7, 47:10, 48:4, 48:10, 63:20, 74:7, 76:4, 84:1, 116:9, 116:14, 147:10, 147:11 locations [5] - 46:3, 47:8, 61:10, 61:14, 72:12 lodged [1] - 114:25 logistics [2] - 47:6, 80:15 long-term [2] -152:21, 161:20 Look [1] - 175:13 look [20] - 25:15, 25:18, 28:10, 29:7, 30:22, 31:13, 32:2, 59:10, 59:14, 59:19, 75:1, 119:12, 122:5, 124:19, 153:1, 173:7, 176:8, 186:15, 191:5, 192:11 looked [5] - 50:8, 93:8, 111:8, 127:1, 188:16 looking [6] - 27:2, 36:4, 50:8, 134:21, 154:7, 190:6 looks [2] - 103:12, 153:15 lost [2] - 41:10, 72:9 loud [1] - 189:23 lower [3] - 105:19, 106:18, 107:6 lunch [6] - 9:20, 16:22, 16:23, 17:24,

43:18, 44:3 Lunch [1] - 44:5 M mail [1] - 12:25 main [3] - 11:21, 36:8, 126:10 maintain [1] - 120:22 major_[1] - 23:8 man [1] - 32:17 management [11] -22:7, 22:12, 23:14, 26:7, 28:23, 35:23, 38:19, 43:8, 48:3, <u>48:9, 48:11</u> manager [10] - 47:6, 60:16, 80:11, 80:14, 80:15, 115:6, 117:9, 117:24, 120:18, 120:20 managers [2] - 36:3, 36:14 manner [1] - 140:8 manual_[2] - 93:23, 156:15 manufacturer [2] -46:6, 61:2 mark [1] - 123:15 marked [9] - 51:12, 59:14, 88:20, 93:13, 102:9, 104:3, 104:14, 137:24, 185:3 Market [1] - 1:13 marks [1] - 27:14 match [6] - 26:3, 26:15, 27:4, 29:9, 38:12, 146:22 matching [2] -146:12, 146:19 materials [1] - 26:20 matter [4] - 134:12, <u>164:12, 170:11,</u> <u>179:15</u> matters [2] - 14:11, <u>134:2</u> McKinney [10] - 3:8, 18:6, 18:9, 18:11, 44:3, 133:23, 134:1, 138:22, 138:23, 194:17 McNees [3] - 183:7, 183:20, 184:21 mean [23] - 6:5, 53:21, 60:17, 62:7, 64:14, 66:10, 67:21,

161:19, 161:25,

165:10, 166:2, 167:9, 169:11, 173:21, 176:2, 182:3 meaning [2] - 120:4, 120:6 means [6] - 15:9. 89:13, 121:1, 123:4, 123:23, 196:24 measure [1] - 27:1 measurements [1] -8:15 Mechanicsburg [3] -1:16, 23:24, 24:18 mechanism [1] mechanisms [1] -131:9 medical [45] - 26:13, 34:21, 35:22, 36:13, 37:1, 37:15, 38:1, 39:13, 39:14, 40:19, <u>41:14, 43:11, 69:17,</u> 69:24, 70:18, 70:21, 72:22, 72:23, 72:25, 149:13, 156:11, <u>157:6, 157:16,</u> <u>157:19, 158:2, 158:4,</u> 162:3, 162:5, 162:7, <u>162:15, 163:16,</u> <u>165:22, 166:4, 167:4,</u> <u>167:7, 167:20, 168:7,</u> <u>169:6, 175:18,</u> <u>176:21, 177:17,</u> 178:11, 178:21, 194:2 Medical [11] - 23:23, 25:16, 35:4, 35:13, 39:16, 151:23, 152:3, 152:4, 156:20, 157:22, 191:15 medically [1] - 170:6 medication [1] -107:14 meet [16] - 15:18, 22:10, 41:4, 42:11, 43:3, 48:7, 53:19, 54:1, 70:11, 70:12, 151:23, 151:25, 157:4, 165:5, 169:19, 174:17 meeting [29] - 56:2, 57:16, 58:6, 70:3, 111:24, 148:3, 148:7, 149:22, 151:18, 158:25, 159:4, 159:13, 172:18, 174:5, 174:7, 174:8, 70:8, 97:20, 98:12, 174:11, 174:13, 174:22, 174:25, 108:11, 121:11, 123:18, 150:14, 175:5, 175:7, 175:20,

175:21, 175:22,

180:15, 180:24, 181:6, 190:23 meetings [3] - 37:24, 149:21, 191:23 member_[4] - 22:7, 22:12, 35:6, 161:20 members [3] - 12:15, 17:23, 26:6 memory [4] - 8:13, 9:11, 95:10 mention [1] - 149:10 mentioned [6] -47:18, 62:2, 84:11, 139:18, 149:12, 179:19 Merit [1] - 196:18 merits [1] - 11:6 met [11] - 33:7. 41:17, 41:18, 70:2<u>,</u> <u>139:15, 157:7,</u> 157:12, 157:14, 165:9, 190:9, 190:12 method [1] - 131:21 mezzanine [1] -84:21 Michael [1] - 1:12 MIDDLE [1] - 1:1 might [3] - 54:15, 61:11, 179:11 mind [10] - 8:4, 8:8, 10:13, 12:1, 13:19, 15:2, 15:25, 16:10, 37:17, 100:11 mine [1] - 104:2 minimum [2] - 11:21, 122:12 minute [3] - 40:18, 40:19, 184:22 minutes [9] - 20:10, 43:19, 51:3, 51:4, <u>67:2, 84:15, 117:2,</u> 147:17, 147:24 misspoke [1] -135:12 misspoken [1] -135:14 mixed [1] - 61:3 moans [1] - 9:8 mobility [4] - 171:14, <u>176:4, 188:13</u> modified [1] - 154:3 modify [5] - 173:17, 173:19, 189:24, 190:21, 192:1 modifying [5] -<u>155:15, 173:2,</u> 190:25, 191:1, 191:4 moment [5] - 33:22, 43:6, 71:3, 87:8, 95:4 money [2] - 29:14,

32:9 month [2] - 49:16, 49:17 monthly [2] - 117:5, 117:7 months [8] - 30:9, 41:3, 42:12, 42:13, 73:3, 73:5, 172:18, 174:18 morning [11] - 9:25, <u>17:1, 17:2, 21:1, 22:2, </u> <u>33:15, 135:7, 135:10,</u> 136:7, 194:19, 194:25 most [5] - 38:4, 64:15, 67:19, 76:10, 101:11 motion [3] - 141:15, 193:1, 194:1 motions [1] - 10:19 move [25] - 12:3, 45:6, 77:4, 77:18, 77:19, 78:2, 84:20, 88:8, 121:19, 129:4, 131:10, 131:17, 139:4, 141:17, 142:7, 142:9, 142:15, 142:16, 142:19, <u>143:2, 165:1, 165:3,</u> 170:21, 193:6 moved [6] - 27:7, 72:11, 88:17, 161:7, 163:14 moving [8] - 65:12, 76:20, 88:14, 91:16, 126:6, 164:16, 176:5, <u>180:7</u> MR [96] - 3:6, 3:24, 18:21, 19:1, 19:6, 20:11, 20:24, 44:8, 44:11, 44:15, 44:24, 49:24, 50:25, 56:11, 56:17, 56:20, 58:24, 60:1, 70:24, 71:11, 73:21, 73:23, 77:13, 78:15, 78:22, 79:1, 79:4, 79:11, 79:18, 79:21, 80:5, 102:17, 102:22, 105:22, 106:2, 116:4, 129:14, 132:12, 133:9, 134:4, 134:14, 134:15, 134:23, 135:23, 136:8, 136:12, 136:13, 137:1, 137:7, 137:21, 138:4, 138:13, 138:17, 139:4, 139:11, 140:4, 140:12, 140:17, 140:20, 141:5, 141:8, 141:17, 141:20,

142:3, 142:9, 142:19, 142:24, 143:3, 143:11, 143:13, 143:15, 144:2, 144:4, 144:16, 144:19, 159:23, 164:8, 164:14, 164:19, 177:15, 182:7, 183:2, 183:19, 183:25, 184:18, 185:4, 185:6, 185:10, 185:14, 185:15, 190:3, 191:11, 192:19, 193:3, 193:15, 194:4 MS [60] - 3:7, 3:25, 19:13, 19:18, 20:7, 20:13, 33:14, 45:2, 45:8, 56:10, 56:13, 59:2, 59:4, 70:25, 71:2, 71:5, 73:19, 78:10, 78:18, 102:20, 105:25, 116:7, 129:12, 132:15, 133:8, 135:1, 136:3, 136:10, 137:2, <u>137:11, 137:15,</u> 137:19, 138:21, 141:24, 142:6, 142:12, 142:16, 144:5, 160:1, 160:2, 164:13, 164:16, 165:2, 177:13, 181:21, 181:24, 182:12, 182:16, <u>182:24, 184:2, 184:8,</u> 184:14, 187:24, <u>188:6, 190:5, 191:9,</u> 192:21, 193:8, 193:17, 193:22 multiple [2] - 79:12, 91:20 must [17] - 5:16, 5:21, 6:7, 6:15, 6:17, 6:22, 6:25, 8:17, 8:18, 8:20, 9:22, 12:7, 13:18, 14:16, 15:10, 15:19, 55:22

N

name [3] - 44:22, 80:3, 144:13 narrow [3] - 130:25, 131:4, 131:12 nature [1] - 101:10 near [1] - 83:13 necessarily [1] -130:18 necessary [7] -11:13, 108:22, 140:14, 140:15, 11:22, 17:20, 19:8, 37:1, 45:6, 65:24, 66:6, 78:20, 84:6, 89:17, 120:16, 124:15, 129:18, 130:18, 137:21, 137:24, 167:11, 167:12 needed [20] - 34:23, 35:14, 35:23, 66:23, 67:10, 68:6, 69:13, 84:5, 84:9, 84:14, 85:16, 85:19, 85:20, 98:5, 112:16, 112:21, 116:20, 131:17, 169:5, 172:6 needs [12] - 24:10, 25:4, 28:8, 29:2, 29:13, 29:22, 31:18, 64:1, 99:21, 121:10, <u>152:12, 158:7</u> <u>networking [1] - 13:3</u> never [18] - 32:14, 35:21, 35:23, 36:15, 37:3, 41:15, 42:19, 42:22, 57:25, 58:2, 58:3, 58:11, 58:14, 58:17, 109:1, 115:9, 181:17 new [3] - 12:20, 18:10, 35:15 news [1] - 14:2 newspapers [2] -87:22, 89:9 next [17] - 18:10, 28:9, 28:17, 50:1, 61:25, 68:23, 76:4, 78:14, 78:15, 90:1, <u>103:16, 104:17,</u> 106:21, 134:18, 163:24, 166:24, 182:18 night [1] - 61:25 night's [1] - 194:15 NO_[1] - 1:3 nobody [3] - 22:5, 24:12, 39:19 none [1] - 36:14 normal [1] - 21:23 normally [1] - 67:16 note [7] - 8:8, 8:16, 8:20, 8:22, 8:24, 9:5 notes [19] - 7:11. 7:17, 8:1, 8:10, 8:11, 8:12, 9:1, 9:5, 9:14, 9:16, 9:18, 9:20, 9:22,

9:24, 10:2, 101:23,

143:19, 196:10

143:19, 172:6, 172:11

need [19] - 8:22,

nothing [11] - 11:9, 27:21, 31:2, 31:13, 62:12, 96:3, 96:6, 96:11, 116:4, 132:12, 133:9 notice [2] - 27:19, 53:12 noticed [5] - 44:11. 53:2, 67:3, 126:13, 179:11 nowhere [1] - 32:4 **number** [10] - 11:20, 29:20, 87:4, 87:5, 87:6, 87:7, 101:7, 106:7 Number [18] - 88:21, 93:13, 93:15, 95:17, 95:18, 96:3, 96:11, 102:10, 105:12, 105:13, 106:18, 118:21, 119:3, 119:13, 129:16, 185:9, 193:24 numerous [2] -<u>128:2, 129:6</u> Nurick [3] - 183:8, 183:20, 184:21

<u>O</u>

oath [3] - 28:2, 54:25, 144:9 obey [2] - 12:7, 12:19 object [6] - 10:20. 164:8, 164:15, 188:1, 193:8, 193:9 objected [1] - 137:13 objection [30] - 6:9, 6:12, 11:1, 18:24, 19:18, 20:3, 56:10, 60:1, 70:24, 71:11, 102:20, 105:24, 105:25, 138:20, 138:21, 141:3, 141:22, 141:24. 142:5, 142:6, 142:11, 142:23, 181:21, 181:24, 184:2, 184:13, 187:24, 188:6, 193:17, 193:20 objections [13] -6:19, 10:19, 10:25, 19:9, 102:19, 136:23, 137:4, 137:5, 137:10, 137:11, 137:18, 137:25, 142:17 objects [2] - 148:24, 180:8 observation [4] -

8:24, 8:25, 37:6,

147:7, 176:17

64:17, 67:10

operators [2] -

14:20, 25:2, 67:6,

opinion [15] - 10:14,

163:23 observations [1] -110:6 observe [3] - 8:18, 66:25, 161:3 observed [11] - 36:2, 36:12, 36:18, 36:19, 43:8, 43:9, 66:18, <u>148:8, 148:14, 160:6,</u> 166:2 observing [1] -<u>161:11</u> obviously [14] -63:12, 66:3, 78:5, 79:23, 120:19, 124:3, 127:9, 137:24, 150:6, <u>152:20, 161:21,</u> 170:3, 176:3, 178:7 occasion [2] -147:16, 194:9 occasional [2] -97:2, 122:15 occasionally [9] -<u>63:1, 64:8, 64:14,</u> 67:4, 89:5, 89:13, 89:14, 90:2, 100:13 occasions [1] - 36:3 occurred [2] - 25:20, 180:16 occurrence [1] -84:19 **OF** [2] - 1:1, 1:7 offer [9] - 35:8, 35:17, 35:18, 158:3, 173:12, 173:16, 180:23, 181:5, 181:10 offered [15] - 31:1, 34:4, 35:16, 39:18, 39:21, 42:1, 43:13, 160:9, 160:17, 171:22, 172:1, 173:4, 181:7, 192:1 offers [1] - 10:20 office [29] - 22:16, 22:19, 28:3, 46:10, 46:11, 49:7, 49:13, 49:22, 50:7, 50:16, 52:22, 54:19, 57:8, 66:24, 79:15, 83:11, 83:13, 83:16, 83:25, 86:23, 99:4, 99:5, <u>116:9, 116:16, 134:6,</u> 139:24, 147:13, 147:14, 176:5 officer [1] - 10:3 offices [1] - 50:2 Offices [1] - 1:15 Official [1] - 1:23 official [2] - 9:6, 40:14

often [4] - 33:16, 64:15, 84:3, 116:18 oil [1] - 101:6 old [1] - 121:20 Old [2] - 1:20, 31:4 once [13] - 28:23, 31:7, 31:8, 31:11, 53:14, 53:22, 70:15, 77:18, 99:14, 147:17, 147:24, 161:9, 182:17 one [57] - 8:10, 11:7, 11:8, 18:21, 22:6, 23:2, 33:15, 33:17, 41:17, 47:7, 50:4, 56:12, 63:20, 63:24, 64:17, 64:19, 65:12, 65:18, 66:8, 70:11, 72:12, 75:4, 75:13, 76:4, 81:15, 91:19, 91:20, 91:22, 98:5, 104:22, 104:25, 112:5, 116:1, 117:25, 118:23, 119:7, 119:12, 125:5, 125:6, 129:9, 129:21, 137:12, 141:20, 148:12, 150:14, <u>154:1, 166:8, 173:7,</u> 173:8, 173:16, 173:25, 178:25, 187:20, 187:25, 188:8, 193:4, 193:12 ones [1] - 173:21 online [1] - 14:19 open [7] - 10:13, 15:2, 41:2, 42:12, 73:9, 176:9 Opening [2] - 2:8, 2:9 opening [14] - 3:22, 4:7, 4:8, 4:11, 4:12, 16:21, 18:5, 18:17, 19:14, 19:17, 19:24, 20:10, 20:18, 47:19 openings [1] - 20:6 openly [1] - 173:24 operate [6] - 57:22, 65:2, 114:16, 125:20, <u>149:8, 149:19</u> operated [2] - 76:19, 151:12 operating [3] -75:25, 115:10, 121:6 operation [2] -46:22, 83:9 operations [14] -22:11, 22:14, 45:18, 46:14, 46:17, 60:18, 60:19, 68:10, 74:3,

74:21, 80:10, 145:9,

68:25, 72:8, 114:3, 159:2, 164:11, 173:18, 177:9, 178:2, 179:23, 179:25, 192:2 opinions [1] - 11:6 oplinger [2] - 30:6. 30:9 Oplinger [7] - 30:7, 30:11, 30:13, 30:15, 40:4, 42:7, 42:9 opportunity [8] -8:23, 10:1, 17:22, 18:18, 40:22, 44:1, 85:12, 133:19 opposed [1] - 191:5 opposite [3] - 15:15. 33:17, 83:19 optional [2] - 178:3, 178:7 options [2] - 28:12, <u>31:9</u> order [8] - 12:20. 63:9, 63:23, 75:2, 134:22, 135:15, 191:2, 192:2 orders [7] - 61:15, 61:16, 67:11, 98:1, 119:24, 120:15, 121:4 organization [2] -47:1, 161:21 organized [1] - 21:21 original [1] - 191:22 originally [1] -162:17 orthopaedic [2] -30:6, 42:5 Orthopaedics [1] -OSHA[1] - 41:12 otherwise [1] -187:16 outline [3] - 4:9, 9:8, 52:10 outside [7] - 6:24, 13:23, 44:18, 78:25, 170:10, 170:17, 181:9 overdo [1] - 108:12 overnight [1] - 9:24 overruled [1] - 6:12 oversaw [1] - 68:11 overseas [1] - 32:18 oversee [2] - 46:13, 150:6 overseeing [3] -69:3, 74:20, 147:21

oversees [2] - 22:13, 23:18 overtime [1] - 41:4 overuse [1] - 8:16 own [19] - 7:18, 14:6, 14:10, 14:19, 40:4, 40:10, 41:8, 60:23, 94:22, 122:11, 122:19, 163:23, <u>165:19, 168:6,</u> 171:18, 172:2, 172:3, 172:9, 172:10 owned [1] - 165:18 owners [5] - 46:22, 48:1, 114:7, 145:23, 162:4

P P-1 [2] - 141:18, 142:20 P-3[1] - 143:11 **P-4** [3] - 104:15, 143:13 **P-5** [2] - 142:20, 143:15 **P.C** [3] - 1:12, 1:15, 1:19 **p.m** [10] - 44:5, 133:25, 139:13, 140:19, 142:2, 144:1, 181:23, 183:1, 194:20, 195:1 **PA**[5] - 1:5, 1:13, 1:16, 1:20, 1:25 packet [1] - 156:15 page [42] - 2:5, 19:2, 19:10, 19:14, 19:15, 20:2, 52:2, 52:6, <u>55:11, 56:11, 56:21,</u> 87:4, 87:5, 87:6, 95:2, 95:3, 95:6, 102:15, 103:5, 103:6, 103:8, 103:9, 103:11, 103:12, 103:16, 105:20, 106:4, 106:17, 106:24, 119:1, 119:3, 138:8, <u>154:8, 183:21,</u> 185:22, 189:15, 189:17, 189:22 pages [3] - 19:15, 59:17, 103:8 paid [2] - 160:9, 160:20 pain [5] - 127:9, <u>127:11, 127:13,</u> <u>127:15, 160:8</u> pallet [27] - 63:24, 63:25, 65:11, 76:6,

76:9, 76:12, 76:14, 76:18, 76:19, 76:22, 76:24, 77:3, 77:15, 77:18, 77:20, 77:21, 77:22, 78:3, 78:5, 81:24, 84:20, 88:11, 99:20, 124:2, 125:16, 125:21, 132:5 pallets [3] - 61:22, 120:7, 121:12 panel [1] - 152:11 paper [1] - 7:17 paperwork [18] -28:10, 32:4, 39:21, 75:1, 75:6, 77:10, 177:16, 177:17, 177:23, 191:5, <u>191:14, 191:15,</u> 191:20, 192:8, 192:11, 192:15, 192:18 paragraph [6] -185:23, 186:5, 189:15, 189:17, 189:22 parallel [1] - 130:21 parameters [1] -181:11 parking [23] - 22:16, <u>22:19, 36:6, 36:19,</u> 37:9, 49:12, 50:5, 52:21, 53:3, 53:15, 54:4, 66:18, 110:23, 111:10, 112:1, 113:5, 116:15, 127:1, 148:9, <u>148:15, 148:23,</u> <u>160:7, 180:8</u> part [34] - 11:23, 19:10, 19:14, 19:17, 30:3, 33:6, 34:16, 49:8, 50:17, 60:7, <u>76:10, 85:17, 99:5,</u> 102:1, 118:7, 127:24, 128:1, 130:4, 134:6, 137:8, 139:21, 145:16, 152:10, 153:17, 156:5, 156:23, 171:22, 174:10, 176:16, 178:1, 180:10, 183:14, 185:19, 191:16 part's [1] - 130:23 parted[1] - 174:11 partial [1] - 10:23 participated [1] -184:10 participation [2] -3:13, 3:17 particular [14] - 6:5,

pencils [1] - 7:17

Pennsylvania [1] -

PENNSYLVANIA [1]

people [9] - 12:16,

peoples' [1] - 176:17

perceived [3] - 16:3,

percent [14] - 65:8,

74:15, 74:23, 76:10,

85:24, 115:25, 126:5,

146:4, 146:8, 146:23,

146:24, 146:25,

percentage [3] -

65:5, 146:5, 147:3

perception [3] -

34:12, 36:12, 165:24

perform [12] - 14:18,

perceptions [1] -

85:12, 92:5, 92:7,

92:24, 97:8, 167:2,

performance [11] -

18:22, 22:4, 27:9,

27:22, 103:13,

142:13, 142:17,

142:21, 149:24,

170:20, 170:21

170:8

148:20

performed [1] -

performing [9] -

27:23, 30:17, 101:18,

performs [1] - 24:22

period [10] - 27:17,

<u>36:1, 75:21, 115:24, </u>

periods [2] - 51:2,

permanent [1] -

permitted [3] - 8:9,

permitting [1] - 6:12

person [5] - 8:19,

176:15, 186:11,

186:13, 186:21,

187:9, 190:12

30:20, 31:16

58:15

166:8

23:7, 25:8, 26:4,

109:10, 132:17,

169:16, 186:13,

147:1, 147:2

23:6

42:23, 46:25, 63:3,

63:8, 67:22, 85:5,

per [1] - 41:12

87:22, 89:24

16:4, 16:14

pens[1] - 7:16

194:2

46:4

- 1:1

17:6, 17:9, 20:2, 61:24, 100:10, 154:3, 162:22, 167:10, 173:8, 173:16, 176:2, 181:16, 186:4 particularly [1] -8:14 particulars [1] -91:18 parties [10] - 4:21, 13:11, 13:21, 14:15, 16:21, 18:6, 20:19, 172:8, 173:23, 173:24 parts [31] - 21:14, 22:11, 34:5, 37:15, 37:20, 38:4, 45:18, 46:2, 46:21, 47:6, 74:2, 80:14, 81:14, 83:9, 83:12, 92:16, 98:20, 101:7, 116:12, 120:1, 120:3, 120:4, 120:25, 121:19, 121:20, 145:4, 154:15, 176:18, 180:12 party [7] - 4:10, 4:11, 13:15, 15:5, 15:6, 20:19, 71:1 pass [8] - 13:13, 13:23, 31:15, 41:15, 141:11, 171:24, 174:14, 179:8 passed [2] - 19:4, 28:1 past [1] - 194:8 Pat [16] - 47:4, 53:20, <u>56:5, 68:8, 68:9,</u> 68:13, 68:22, 68:24, 148:4, 148:11, 148:18, 149:22, <u>151:19, 161:5</u> Patrick [3] - 2:15. 79:25, 80:4 pause [27] - 3:19, 51:14, 57:1, 59:3, <u>59:25, 86:13, 88:19,</u> 93:11, 94:12, 95:8, 95:15, 95:23, 104:13, 107:10, 139:12, 142:1, 143:10, 143:12, 143:14, 143:21, 144:18, 152:25, 184:1, 184:25, 185:11, 186:1, 189:8 pay [6] - 7:24, 146:1, 146:2, 146:7, 161:6, 174:16 paycheck [2] - 29:16, 29:21

75:5, 77:10, 90:7, pending [2] - 138:15, 143:1 personal [1] - 7:18 personally [3] -149:25, 160:6, 177:21 personnel [7] - 48:9, 48:11, 101:23, 150:5, 156:15, 178:10, 178:14 persuade [2] - 9:2, 9:15 Pete [1] - 33:7 Peter [2] - 1:15, 1:15 phone [2] - 135:21, 174:20 phones [2] - 14:7, 121:3 physical [56] - 23:22, 24:10, 24:23, 25:3, 25:7, 25:18, 27:1, 27:23, 31:10, 31:15, 34:10, 34:11, 34:16, 38:7, 38:10, 38:15, 38:20, 39:4, 41:16, 43:3, 52:5, 52:13, 59:24, 81:22, 119:14, <u>119:16, 119:18,</u> 120:12, 122:2, 122:6, 124:9, 151:20, 153:4, <u>154:7, 154:11,</u> 154:19, 154:25, <u>155:9, 156:5, 157:22,</u> <u>159:10, 160:7,</u> 187:11, 187:17, 191:3 <u>161:21, 171:24,</u> <u>172:16, 172:21,</u> <u>172:23, 172:25,</u> <u>174:14, 174:15,</u> <u>176:1, 177:10,</u> 178:16, 179:8, 179:24 Physical [1] - 59:15 physically [15] -27:18, 42:11, 83:15, 95:12, 97:12, 97:14, 98:22, 106:12, 119:23, 124:9, 124:16, 125:24, 158:25, 170:7, 170:22 physicals [2] - 24:1, 152:6 physician [9] - 30:3, 30:6, 34:22, 152:11, 163:2, 172:2, 172:4, 172:9, 172:10 physician's [2] -24:20, 24:21 physicians [1] -26:24 pick [9] - 38:16, 42:3,

173:15 picking [2] - 121:9, 121:11 pickup[1] - 64:3 picture [1] - 124:21 pile [1] - 29:22 pitched [2] - 85:18, 85:20 place [9] - 9:17. 21:20, 22:9, 30:22, 79:20, 140:2, 146:13, 146:16, 179:3 placed [2] - 30:14, 167:19 plaintiff [1] - 20:20 Plaintiff [2] - 1:3, 1:11 **PLAINTIFF** [1] - 2:10 plaintiff's [4] -133:22, 140:21, <u>185:2, 193:23</u> Plaintiff's [24] -51:13, 88:21, 93:13, 93:14, 95:17, 96:2, 96:11, 102:10, 102:18, 105:5, 105:12, 105:13, 118:21, 118:22, 138:4, 142:4, 142:10, 152:23, 185:9, 189:6, 190:6, 193:21, 194:1 planned [1] - 32:25 plans [1] - 24:4 play [1] - 118:7 point [50] - 11:21, 28:5, 29:1, 29:24, 30:13, 32:1, 39:5, 39:11, 39:15, 40:25, 41:17, 42:14, 45:22, 60:11, 61:9, 61:14, 78:19, 81:15, 85:2, 92:23, 94:24, 97:17, 98:8, 100:12, 100:18, 110:15, 110:20, <u>111:7, 111:10,</u> 111:12, 112:7, 113:8, 114:20, 116:2, 117:14, 123:18, 130:22, 137:12, <u>157:5, 161:15,</u> <u>161:22, 163:12,</u> 164:9, 171:23, 172:3, 174:3, 175:17, 187:5, 193:6, 193:19 points [2] - 8:7, 35:25 policy [2] - 93:23, 160:10 Polisher [1] - 1:19 portable [3] - 38:24,

65:24, 66:1 portion [3] - 137:4, 137:12, 143:7 portions [2] - 19:7, 137:23 position [30] - 45:16, 45:20, 46:21, 47:5, 51:24, 69:14, 74:1, 74:2, 80:8, 81:3, 82:20, 94:8, 145:1, 175:11, 176:11, 176:13, 181:1, 181:9, 181:13, 183:22, <u>187:7, 187:8, 187:9,</u> 187:15, 187:16, 188:3, 188:11, 188:12, 188:14, 192:13 positions [9] - 60:15, 80:12, 81:1, 182:11, 186:11, 186:20, <u>186:24, 187:1, 188:4</u> positive [1] - 148:12 possibility [2] -41:25, 149:3 possible [6] - 12:4, 78:23, 79:1, 131:2, 167:23, 174:1 possibly [1] - 41:19 pound [2] - 123:9, 123:15 pounds [36] - 38:17, 38:22, 62:6, 62:13, 62:14, 62:20, 62:24, 63:1, 64:5, 64:8, 86:7, 87:18, 89:5, 89:12, 89:14, 89:18, 89:24, 90:2, 90:11, 97:1, 97:2, 100:6, 100:8, 100:13, 101:2, 101:5, 122:10, 122:13, 122:16, 122:17, 123:5, 123:7, 123:11, 123:13, 123:23 powder[1] - 43:6 practically [1] -62:12 pre [2] - 23:25, 152:6 pre-employment [2] - 23:25, 152:6 prefer[1] - 63:4 preferably [1] - 63:2 prejudice [2] - 13:17, 14:22 Preliminary [1] - 2:7 preliminary [4] -3:20, 4:4, 134:4, 139:18 premarked [2] -105:12, 185:6

64:1, 121:14, 125:9,

129:10, 160:3, 172:5,

providers [1] - 26:13

providing [2] -

proving [1] - 15:8

public [1] - 87:22

publish [9] - 102:17,

181:19, 184:11

105:22, 138:6,

138:11, 138:14,

preparation [1] -184:10 prepared [3] - 3:5. 181:2, 194:16 preponderance [1] -15:9 present [7] - 4:13, 4:22, 11:15, 14:15, 40:6, 74:1, 146:16 presentation [1] -7:12 presented [5] - 4:16, 5:4, 7:1, 7:6, 14:24 presiding [1] - 12:19 pretty [5] - 63:13, 64:13, 68:1, 68:8, 70:7 prevent [2] - 21:24, <u>23:5</u> prevented [1] - 41:11 previous [1] - 175:22 previously [4] -140:6, 176:1, 185:3, 188:11 primarily [5] - 46:8. 81:13, 97:22, 97:24, 98:3 primary [1] - 21:18 privacy [1] - 178:18 privilege [1] - 164:22 problem [11] - 19:10, 19:21, 20:1, 20:12, 20:13, 68:3, 110:22, 135:1, 136:3, 168:13, 182:19 problems [13] -24:15, 27:23, 53:22, 69:24, 91:15, 111:1, <u>117:16, 117:20,</u> 126:25, 170:20, 171:13, 179:11, 188:13 procedure [1] -134:5 proceed [5] - 3:5, 4:6, 20:20, 139:16, 140:16 Proceedings [1] -196:3 PROCEEDINGS [1] proceedings [11] -<u>4:4, 9:8, 17:25,</u> 182:23, 183:5, 183:10, 183:16, 185:20, 194:7, 194:14, 196:8 process [9] - 3:14, 102:2, 156:23, 161:14, 162:10,

167:14, 167:16, 178:1, 183:14 product [31] - 37:12, 38:14, 46:6, 61:1, 61:3, 61:4, 61:6, 61:10, 61:13, 61:16, 61:18, 61:19, 61:21, 62:7, 62:8, 63:20, 64:1, 6<u>5:13, 66:16,</u> 75:5, 76:8, 76:11, 76:20, 77:5, 98:6, 124:17, 125:9, 125:23, 130:13, 145:13, 145:14 productive [1] -109:16 productivity [5] -22:6, 27:15, 57:19, 58:4, 106:7 products [8] - 21:19, 37:11, 62:9, 65:14, 66:9, 76:16, 77:11, 129:10 professionals [1] -37:15 program [6] -146:13, 146:15, 146:19, 146:21, 160:12, 177:24 prohibit [1] - 79:22 prohibition [3] -108:19, 131:16, <u>131:20</u> prohibitive [1] -<u>173:5</u> project [2] - 84:21 promise [1] - 194:10

promptly [2] - 13:9,

proof [3] - 15:23,

proper [2] - 66:8,

property [2] - 49:9,

prospective [2] -

protect [1] - 10:4

protects [1] - 35:5

prove [4] - 15:10,

provide [7] - 26:19,

23:9, 26:1, 26:18

137:21, 154:11,

provided [13] -

<u>25:16, 25:24, 26:13, </u>

39:10, 51:19, <u>51:22,</u>

103:17, 177:25, 182:9

52:1, 52:15, 94:24,

160:20, 183:4,

183:11, 186:3

20:20, 25:12

44:12, 152:5

25:1

66:12

161:8

138:17, 140:21, 141:4, 142:3 published [1] - 138:5 **pull** [5] - 67:10, 78:6, 124:11, 125:25 pulled [1] - 170:4 puller[1] - 60:15 pulling [7] - 61:19, 63:22, 92:14, 98:1, 109:13, 119:24, 121:3 purchased [1] - 46:5 purpose [5] - 6:15. 8:13, 11:16, 14:12, 193:18 purposes [1] - 18:16 push [6] - 77:24, 78:6, 124:11, 124:18, 125:14, 133:1 pushing [1] - 65:11 put [32] - 15:13, 15:25, 17:7, 21:19, 24:4, 27:7, 61:13, 61:22, 63:24, 64:2, 67:20, 68:1, 76:17, 77:5, 98:9, 98:13, 98:15, 99:15, 101:23, 125:10, 130:9, 139:9, 139:22, 140:25, 149:12, 153:13, 157:16, 158:2, 167:3, 167:6, 175:12, 178:10 puts [1] - 27:19 putting [9] - 61:18, 65:13, 65:14, 65:21, 76:20, 94:6, 99:6, 99:9, 163:19 Q

qualification [1] 188:18
qualified [7] - 97:5,
97:11, 181:14,
187:10, 188:5,
188:12, 188:14
qualifies [1] - 30:18
qualify [1] - 186:12
questionnaires [1] 31:21
questions [17] 5:12, 6:18, 6:20,
53:24, 55:4, 55:7,

190:22

59:11, 73:19, 73:22, 119:5, 129:12, 133:10, 145:25, 177:13, 184:23, 192:21, 192:22 quick [1] - 68:1 quickly [2] - 67:21, 167:23 quite [5] - 87:15, 159:22, 160:11, 170:3, 192:4

R rack [4] - 82:8, 84:20, 129:5, 132:5 racks [5] - 81:24, 82:2, 82:4, 82:6, 82:7 **raise** [4] - 7:9. 115:17, 116:2, 146:7 raised [5] - 103:20, 105:6, 113:2, 136:23, 137:4 raises [3] - 115:13, 146:1, 146:2 raising [1] - 11:22 ran [1] - 129:5 range [1] - 106:15 rarely [1] - 132:19 rate [1] - 115:22 rather [1] - 178:24 reaching [1] - 5:9 reaction [2] - 113:17, 159:19 read [19] - 7:19, 56:25, 95:4, 103:11, 134:6, 134:16, 136:22, 137:7, 137:9, 137:15, 139:20, 139:25, 140:18, 143:7, 183:21, 185:23, 189:21, 189:22, 190:20 Reading [1] - 2:19 reading [14] - 4:23, 19:6, 19:19, 19:23, 28:4, 134:11, 134:12, 136:19, 137:18, 139:17, 139:21, 143:25, 144:17, 184:8 ready [1] - 138:3 reality [3] - 191:6, 192:12 really [14] - 29:24. 79:16, 85:1, 90:13, 91:17, 100:10, 111:9, 123:16, 150:15, 176:6, 176:19, 178:20, 189:25,

reapply [2] - 42:18, 177:1 reason [4] - 6:11. 42:9, 164:19, 193:10 reasonable [3] -15:22, 29:11, 146:6 reasons [1] - 165:22 rebuttal [2] - 78:23, 79:2 recalled [2] - 79:8, 135:20 receive [8] - 3:17, 32:8, 57:21, 98:17, 107:11, 145:12, 150:3, 155:24 received [20] - 6:1, 6:4, 6:14, 57:18, 58:7, 58:17, 61:8, 61:12, 98:10, 98:15, 99:14, 149:23, 156:3, 157:24, 174:20, 174:23, 174:24, 175:17, 190:18, 191:20 receiver [4] - 97:18. 99:12, 189:25, 190:22 receives [1] - 30:19 receiving [8] - 61:18, 77:12, 97:23, 97:25, 98:12, 99:4, 156:10, 175:2 recently [1] - 45:15 recess [12] - 9:19, 11:16, 11:25, 13:23, 18:12, 20:9, 20:18, 44:3, 44:5, 133:24, 133:25, 194:18 Recess [1] - 20:15 recessed [2] - 18:14, 194:20 recognize [2] -17:16, 79:7 recollection [6] - 8:5. 53:5, 87:10, 112:6, 149:11, 149:20 recommendation [1] <u>- 158:9</u> recommendations [1] - 115:15 recommended [2] -63:18, 115:16 reconvene [2] -43:21, 133:21 record [20] - 6:1, 28:5, 44:22, 80:3, 103:4, 134:9, 134:13, 134:17, 136:15, 136:17, 136:18, 136:22, 139:20,

140:19, 141:14,

144:13, 183:24, 184:18, 194:22, 194:23 records [2] - 162:5, 162:7 recover [1] - 32:9 RECROSS [2] -132:15, 190:5 Recross [2] - 2:17, 2:22 REDIRECT [4] -73:23, 129:14, <u>177:15, 191:11</u> Redirect [3] - 2:13, 2:17, 2:22 reevaluate [1] -171:23 refer [1] - 55:11 reference [2] - 56:15, 182:20 referencing [4] -19:2, 19:22, 56:6, <u>56:23</u> <u>referred</u> [1] - 62:8 referring [1] - 150:12 reflecting [1] - 13:17 reflexes [2] - 36:4, 54:13 refrain [3] - 43:23, 133:16, 194:12 refresh [3] - 9:10, 87:10.95:10 refreshing [1] - 8:13 refuse [1] - 30:4 refused [1] - 29:19 refuses [2] - 29:10, 29:12 regard [8] - 62:15, 66:5, 66:17, 118:6, 118:8, 128:22, 167:17, 171:8 regarding [7] - 52:1. 52:4, 52:12, 74:5, 108:8, 143:20, 183:21 regardless [3] -187:8, 187:22, 188:2 regional [1] - 80:10 Registered [1] -196:18 regular_[1] - 132:7 regularly [4] - 49:19, 62:25, 66:25, 73:24 reiterate [1] - 14:18 reject [1] - 10:9 related [1] - 48:17 relates [1] - 141:1 relation [1] - 49:22 relationship [4] -<u>152:4, 152:18,</u> 152:21, 165:21

relationships [1] request [7] - 16:15, 8:16 24:12, 29:11, 44:14, release [1] - 163:1 released [8] - 34:22, 78:19, 79:6, 134:20, 134:25, 135:17, 135:18, 162:24 rely [1] - 164:23 relying [2] - 8:4, 9:12 remain [2] - 9:22, 44:17 remember [27] -7:17, 53:8, 53:11, 54:19, 55:7, 58:16, 58:19, 58:23, 68:17, 68:18, 70:3, 70:10, 110:19, 111:6, 111:23, 113:12, 113:13, 113:15, 113:16, 113:17, 114:22, 114:24, 157:9, 175:1, 175:2, 175:3 reminded [1] - 19:1 render [2] - 9:13, 14:24 repeat [1] - 154:22 replace [1] - 73:1 replaced [1] - 73:4 replacement [2] -40:23, 42:21 replacing [1] -176:14 report [17] - 47:3, 47:25, 109:19, 110:1, 110:24, 132:2, 149:7, 150:21, 150:25, 157:21, 157:24, 166:17, 166:18, 169:12, 169:15, 169:17, 179:20 reported [8] - 46:22, 46:25, 47:4, 110:2, 117:12, 145:23, <u>150:7, 166:14</u> reporter [2] - 7:20, 196:25 Reporter [3] - 1:22, <u>1:23, 196:18</u> reports [6] - 24:8, 109:8, 109:11, 150:3, 150:6, 151:4 representations [1] -32:10 representative [1] -26:20

reprimand [2] -

reproduction [1] -

75:12, 75:15

196:23

105:22, 178:9, 189:19 requesting [1] - 16:5 require [3] - 63:10, 86:22, 119:18 required [13] - 4:11 <u>8:9, 8:10, 35:2, 70:7,</u> 89:5, 89:19, 117:21, <u>119:23, 120:12,</u> 120:23, 120:25, 121:18 requirement [10] -64:5, 88:4, 89:16, 96:17, 96:19, 96:22, 96:25, 122:9, 122:12, 173:8 Requirements [1] -59:15 requirements [27] -38:8, 38:20, 39:4, 41:12, 42:11, 43:3, 52:5, 52:13, 59:23, 59:24, 60:3, 87:14, 119:15, 119:16, <u>119:18, 119:21,</u> 120:12, 122:6, 123:1, <u>154:7, 154:12,</u> 154:20, 154:25, 155:9, 172:21, 172:23, 172:25 requires [4] - 12:19, 61:4, 66:3, 125:12 <u>research</u> [7] - 14:4, <u>14:6, 14:11, 14:18,</u> 14:19, 182:2, 194:13 resolve [2] - 16:11, 168:18 resources [6] -23:18, 24:8, 48:13, 69:3, 145:18, 145:21 respect [4] - 18:19, 96:19, 96:22, 184:15 respected [2] - 37:5, 161:20 respond [3] - 170:15, 185:19, 188:9 response [7] -181:19, 181:25, 182<u>:10, 182:14,</u> 183:11, 183:16 responses [1] -92:10 responsibilities [2] -34:17, 122:2 responsibility [1] -147:20 responsible [4] -46:16, 68:10, 72:17, 180:6

rest [2] - 65:9, 101:16 restricted [1] -162:23 restriction [1] -172:12 restrictions [8] -30:15, 163:3, 163:5 163:7, 167:5, 167:12, <u>170:19, 171:25</u> result [2] - 16:14. 131:9 results [1] - 166:15 **retaliated** [1] - 16:5 retaliation [1] - 16:15 retired [3] - 32:18, 33:1, 33:4 retrieving [1] - 92:17 <u>return</u> [8] - 3:14, 9:25, 16:20, 18:5, <u>33:10, 43:20, 118:2,</u> <u>175:18</u> returned [3] - 34:21, 153:8, 157:5 revealed [1] - 36:15 reverse [1] - 167:13 review [8] - 25:25, 87:8, 114:4, 141:10, 143:23, 184:22, 185:13, 189:9 reviewed [1] - 27:11 reviewing [1] -185:16 Ricky [235] - 2:1, 21:11, 21:14, 21:16, 22:8, 22:18, 22:20, 22:22, 23:20, 24:2, 24:9, 24:11, 24:14, 24:22, 24:23, 24:24, 25:5, 25:11, 25:25, 26:4, 26:8, 26:15, 26:21, 27:12, 27:13 27:23, 28:6, 28:9, 28:12, 28:16, 28:17, 28:25, 29:7, 29:18, 29:21, 29:23, 30:5, 30:8, 30:9, 30:14, 30:16, 30:17, 30:18, 30:20, 30:21, 31:3, 31:6, 31:14, 31:18, 31:23, 32:4, 32:7, 32:10, 32:14, 32:16, 32:22, 33:2, 33:10, 33:19, 33:20, 34:1, 34:3, 34:18, 34:19, 35:11, 35:19, 36:15, 48:19, 48:22, 48:25, 50:6, 51:6, 52:17, 52:20, 53:5, 54:3, 54:8, 54:12, 55:8,

55:14, 55:18, 55:23, 56:3, 57:6, 57:12, 58:8, 58:12, 58:14, 58:17, 58:21, 66:25, 67:5, 67:14, 68:2, 68:19, 69:1, 69:10, 69:16, 70:15, 71:7, 71:13, 72:1, 72:4, 72:10, 72:15, 73:15, 74:11, 74:14, 74:22, 75:7, 75:24, 81:4, 82:13, 82:15, 85:9, 86:11, 90:21, 90:25, 91:3, 91:13, 92:5, 92:18, 92:24, 93:2, 93:7, 97:5, 97:8, 98:6, 99:12, 99:24, 100:9, 100:12, 100:19, 101:13, 101:20, 107:12, 107:16, 107:21, 108:23, 109:5, 109:9, 109:12, 109:16, 110:6, 110:11, 110:16, 110:22, 111:13, 111:17, 113:8, 113:13, 113:21, 114:10, 114:16, 115:3, 117:16, 126:25, 127:16, 127:17, 131:16, 131:21, 131:25, 132:3, 132:9, 147:9, 147:25, 148:4, 148:14, 148:19. 148:21, 149:1, 149:8, 149:12, 149:19, <u>150:3, 150:9, 150:12,</u> <u>150:22, 150:25,</u> 151:4, 151:7, 151:20, 151:23, 151:24, 151:25, 152:1, 155:8, <u>155:16, 155:24,</u> 156:9, 157:1, 157:4, 157:7, 157:9, 157:10, 157:12, 157:14, <u>157:18, 158:2, 158:4,</u> <u>158:6, 158:12,</u> 158:20, 158:24, 159:5, 160:6, 161:6, 162:14, 170:16, 171:23, 174:19, 174:21, 175:6, 175:9, 175:12, 175:22, <u>177:16, 178:11,</u> 178:16, 179:1, 179:10, 179:21, 180:3, 180:11, 180:15, 180:25, 181:14, 187:2, 187:20, 189:12,

189:18, 191:20, 192:14, 196:1 **RICKY** [1] - 1:3 ricky [1] - 82:19 Ricky's [21] - 21:18, 21:23, 22:6, 23:11, 27:4, 27:9, 27:10, 57:19, 82:24, 102:1, 102:6, 106:22, 108:8, <u>113:17, 149:24,</u> <u>156:6, 159:2, 159:18,</u> 173:18, 176:19, 191:16 ridiculous [2] -<u>171:5, 174:12</u> right-hand [2] -105:20, 106:18 rightly [1] - 13:16 risen [1] - 112:21 RMR [1] - 1:23 Road [2] - 1:16, 1:20 role [1] - 134:12 rolling [1] - 66:2 room [7] - 9:21, 9:23, 12:1, 12:10, 17:14, 169:4, 169:22 roughly [3] - 54:23, 76:14, 127:5 rude [1] - 13:25 rule [1] - 14:17 rules [7] - 11:18, 12:5, 12:7, 13:22, 14:14, 162:2, 162:4 <u>ruling [3] - 11:5,</u> 19:8, 193:25 ruling" [1] - 137:24 rulings [1] - 10:18 run [3] - 17:18, 61:5, 87:14 running [2] - 85:2, 187:21 russo [3] - 2:17, 133:9, 138:13 **RUSSO** [15] - 78:15, 80:5, 102:17, 102:22, 105:22, 106:2, 116:4, 129:14, 132:12, 134:15, 136:12, 138:4, 138:17, 139:4, 139:11 Russo [10] - 1:15, 1:15, 2:16, 33:7, 78:14, 87:3, 103:4, 119:5, 129:13, 138:11

<u>S</u>

<u>S-E-H-L-D-O-N [1] -</u> 144:15 sacrifice [1] - 8:23

sadly [1] - 35:11 safe [1] - 90:16 safely [2] - 17:19. 194:17 safety [5] - 113:25, <u>114:6, 114:9, 114:12,</u> 114:14 sake [2] - 124:20 salary [1] - 146:23 Saltz [17] - 1:19, 1:19, 2:12, 2:21, 2:22, 19:12, 20:4, 33:13, 43:17, 45:5, 59:1, 78:9, 141:3, 141:23. 159:25, 184:13, 190:4 **SALTZ** [60] - 3:7, 3:25, 19:13, 19:18, 20:7, 20:13, 33:14, 45:2, 45:8, 56:10, 56:13, 59:2, 59:4, 70:25, 71:2, 71:5, 73:19, 78:10, 78:18, 102:20, 105:25, 116:7, 129:12, 132:15, 133:8, 135:1, 136:3, 136:10, 137:2, 137:11, 137:15, <u>137:19, 138:21,</u> <u>141:24, 142:6,</u> <u>142:12, 142:16,</u> 144:5, 160:1, 160:2, <u>164:13, 164:16,</u> <u>165:2, 177:13,</u> 181:21, 181:24, 182:12, 182:16, 182:24, 184:2, 184:8, <u>184:14, 187:24,</u> 188:6, 190:5, 191:9, 192:21, 193:8, 193:17, 193:22 **saltz** [4] - 2:9, 2:16, 2:17, 44:16 **satisfied** [1] - 3:4 **saw** [18] - 36:9, 37:7, 52:24, 53:1, 53:19, 53:23, 69:5, 75:7, 91:15, 97:12, 97:14, 100:2, 101:13, 108:24, 148:15, 161:6, 161:11, 190:19 scales [2] - 15:16. 15:17 schedule [3] - 16:20, 17:21, 135:19 scheduling [1] -134:2 School [1] - 1:20

score [3] - 27:19,

scores [2] - 103:17,

106:9, 106:14

103:19 screen [1] - 102:24 screenings [1] -152:15 screens [1] - 103:1 seated [9] - 20:16, 44:6, 44:17, 44:21, 80:2, 139:13, 139:14, 144:12, 194:21 second [14] - 6:19, 8:11, 12:11, 40:11, 56:12, 82:4, 82:6, 82:7, 82:8, 94:6, 106:24, 144:17, 180:15, 187:25 secondly [2] - 67:17, 69:10 secrecy [1] - 10:4 secretive [1] - 162:9 section [5] - 59:14, 95:5, 103:23, 119:15, 153:11 sections [1] - 59:20 secure [1] - 9:24 security [6] - 31:19, 31:24, 32:3, 32:8, 32:11, 41:7 sedentary [4] -30:17, 40:10, 159:15, <u>170:10</u> see [43] - 7:10, 7:19, 13:22, 19:25, 23:16, 25:22, 27:13, 29:5, 30:6, 39:23, 40:5, 51:6, 51:10, 51:16, 52:20, 63:7, 66:19, 69:6, 70:6, 71:21, 75:24, 79:5, 90:21, 90:25, 91:3, 91:8, 93:7, 93:17, 99:24, 100:19, 101:17, 102:23, 105:5, 106:4, 107:16, 113:6, 116:14, 132:9. 147:24, 166:17, 182:8, 189:15, 194:24 seeing [4] - 37:22, 111:1, 184:4 seem [2] - 18:23, 148:22 seeming[1] - 107:12 sees [1] - 22:18 selected [1] - 3:12 selection [2] - 3:2, 3:5 sells [2] - 21:13, 145:4 Sembrot [5] - 134:6,

send [14] - 12:25, 23:21, 23:22, 26:25, 111:11, 112:8, 113:20, 151:19, 151:22, 152:5, 152:9, 152:14, 163:25, 165:12 sending [1] - 114:11 sends [3] - 23:21, 23:25, 30:9 sent [18] - 25:25. 39:2, 42:15, 43:10, <u>110:9, 110:11, 115:1,</u> 126:17, 128:8, 128:15, 153:3, <u>153:14, 154:5,</u> 165:24, 176:11, 179:23, 180:17, 191:15 Sent[1] - 153:10 sentence [1] -190:20 sentences [1] -189:21 separate [3] - 83:21, 83:22, 174:5 separated [1] - 49:12 September [8] -<u>25:20, 31:11, 40:15,</u> <u>176:11, 177:1,</u> 180:16, 180:19, 186:14 sequestered [1] -79:14 sequestration [1] -44:14 serious [1] - 162:2 seriously [4] -127:21, 131:25, 132:3, 132:10 served [2] - 32:16. 145:1 service [5] - 12:24, 13:3, 33:23, 50:3, 145:5 serving [1] - 32:17 set [1] - 119:20 sets [1] - 65:18 setting [2] - 82:10, 173:19 settled [1] - 32:19 seven [3] - 41:3, 42:12, 42:13 seventeen [1] -185:6 seventh [2] - 3:15, <u>3:18</u> seventy [10] - 38:22,

50:5, 62:20, 62:24,

64:5, 89:18, 89:24,

90:11, 97:2, 100:6 several [7] - 18:10, 70:12, 152:20, 172:18, 174:18, 188:7, 189:5 shares [1] - 165:20 Shaw [98] - 2:1, 4:13, <u>4:16, 4:19, 15:4, 15:7,</u> <u>15:10, 15:14, 15:16,</u> 15:18, 16:1, 16:13, 21:8, 33:19, 33:20, 34:1, 34:18, 35:19, 36:9, 36:24, 37:3, 38:9, 38:15, 39:2, 39:5, 39:12, 39:15, 39:22, 39:25, 40:1, 40:2, 40:7, 40:11, 40:22, 41:7, 41:17, 41:20, 42:4, 42:21, 43:4, 48:20, 48:22, 49:5, 52:17, 56:3, 57:7, 66:18, 72:7, 72:8, 72:22, 81:4, 82:13, 86:11, 90:21, <u>115:10, 117:16,</u> <u>117:20, 118:1, 118:7,</u> 126:14, 131:17, 131:21, 132:18, 135:7, 136:10, 147:9, 147:12, 147:25, 153:4, 155:8, 155:16, 155:24, 156:19, 161:4, 162:14, 163:16, 165:12, 165:23, 167:1, <u>167:19, 169:19.</u> 169:25, 170:2, 170:3, 176:21, 177:16, 178:11, 181:19, 186:12, 187:5, <u>187:10, 188:10,</u> 189:1, 189:5, 189:12, 190:10, 190:13, 196:1 SHAW [1] - 1:3 Shaw's [14] - 4:14, <u>4:17, 16:8, 16:15,</u> <u>18:22, 37:17, 40:4,</u> 42:14, 42:24, 105:16, 114:10, 128:24, 148:4, 164:20 sheet [2] - 173:9. <u>173:10</u> Sheldon [45] - 2:20, 23:16, 24:9, 41:17, 41:18, 41:25, 47:18, 47:19, 47:24, 47:25, 48:4, 53:20, 54:1, 55:13, 56:2, 57:17, 58:7, 71:9, 71:24, 109:21, 110:5,

139:10, 139:23,

140:10, 140:15

110:10, 110:20, 111:4, 111:7, 111:13, 111:19, 112:12, 134:20, 135:6, 135:11, 144:4, 144:7, 144:10, 144:14, 144:20, 160:13, 179:16, 182:8, 184:19, 185:16, 186:19, 187:19, 191:13, 192:23 sheldon_[5] - 23:19, 110:1, 110:7, 134:19, 178:24 shelf [3] - 65:14, 76:21, 77:5 shelves [7] - 65:22, 99:15, 120:7, 120:22, 121:17, 124:23, 125:7 shift [2] - 85:5, 85:9 shifts [1] - 85:2 shin [1] - 162:20 shipped [1] - 62:1 shipping [5] - 84:9, 97:22, 97:24, 145:13, 176:18 shocked [1] - 25:6 **short** [15] - 24:22, <u>25:5, 28:8, 28:15,</u> 29:13, 29:19, 30:1, 30:19, 31:5, 51:2, <u>158:7, 158:10,</u> <u>159:21, 160:9, 178:3</u> short-term [5] -158:7, 158:10, 159:21, 160:9, 178:3 **show** [19] - 4:10, 18:21, 27:6, 32:13, 51:12, 56:17, 56:21, 87:1, 88:20, 102:9, 103:8, 103:16, 103:22, 104:14, 105:11, 106:3, 140:24, 152:22, 189:6 showed [1] - 34:12 showing [4] -143:11, 184:3, 184:17, 184:19 shown [1] - 5:6 shows [3] - 24:2, <u>24:18, 28:17</u> shut [2] - 21:4, 21:10 shutting [1] - 29:25 Side [2] - 181:23, 183:1 side [12] - 4:7, 10:20, <u>11:7, 11:8, 13:18,</u> 15:18, 50:7, 74:11, 103:11, 103:13 sides [1] - 15:16

sign_[3] - 177:23, 178:5, 178:8 signature [7] -102:13, 103:2, 104:22, 105:19, 106:19, 106:21, 107:9 signed [2] - 115:6. 115:9 similar [2] - 81:3, 153:25 **simply** [8] - 4:9, 14:1, 134:11, 137:5, 139:24, 173:10, <u>173:17, 174:12</u> **sit** [7] - 30:18, 40:9, 42:24, 75:1, 77:10, 124:3, 169:4 sits [1] - 36:5 sitting [5] - 37:9, 37:10, 37:24, 64:10, 133:6 situation [13] -30:10, 37:4, 70:12, 75:13, 117:3, 118:1, 160:23, 161:17, <u>164:6, 165:6, 166:7,</u> <u>168:10, 190:1</u> situations [2] -<u>17:16, 114:10</u> **six** [8] - 21:18, 24:5, 28:14, 49:1, 52:24, 66:21, 73:5 sixteen [1] - 145:2 sixth[1] - 36:21 sixty[1] - 50:4 size [2] - 61:23, 187:15 skid [2] - 65:13, 121:12 skids [2] - 121:9, 121:11 skills [1] - 97:6 skip [1] - 137:5 sleep [1] - 194:15 slid [1] - 130:21 slide [2] - 77:22, 130:14 slot [1] - 77:23 slots [1] - 77:20 slow [3] - 36:3, 53:6, 53:9 small [3] - 81:13, 91:14, 120:4 smaller [1] - 81:5 snuffed [1] - 33:6 social [7] - 13:2, 31:19, 31:24, 32:3, 32:8, 32:11, 41:7 solely [3] - 7:1,

14:16, 14:24

solicit_[2] - 52:17, 154:18 someone [8] - 35:6. 37:11, 65:6, 66:23, 67:24, 71:6, 122:11, 123:22 sometime [1] - 157:8 sometimes [7] -60:21, 61:17, 61:19, 67:1, 86:16, 88:2, 121:1 somewhat [1] -15:17 somewhere [2] -125:10, 180:22 soon[1] - 34:18 sooner[1] - 40:25 sorry [13] - 27:8, 72:9, 87:5, 92:9, 92:11, 92:15, 107:5, 112:24, 122:6, 127:25, 129:23, 134:19, 154:21 sort [4] - 8:2, 18:10, 35:10, 103:10 sorted [2] - 61:24, 73:8 sought[1] - 110:25 sound [1] - 146:10 sounds [2] - 49:3, 146:6 sources [1] - 14:20 **space**[1] - 176:5 specific [6] - 8:7, 60:3, 67:9, 70:8, 100:22, 173:13 specifically [9] -<u>55:10, 55:25, 68:18, </u> 70:4, 70:15, 73:13, 108:3, 173:1, 185:24 specified [1] - 27:17 speed [2] - 17:19. 142:25 spelled [1] - 188:19 spend [3] - 74:17, 84:16, 117:5 spot [1] - 104:3 spring [1] - 91:17 square [1] - 76:15 squat [5] - 39:7. 66:14, 129:10, 130:19, 132:19 **squatting** [12] - 34:8, 38:25, 58:22, 66:6, 67:15, 92:12, 92:19, 96:12, 119:25, 125:12, 129:8 stacking [1] - 65:14 staff_[1] - 155:2 stage [1] - 121:13

staging [2] - 98:9, 98:11 staircase [1] - 65:25 stairs [7] - 22:1, 38:24, 65:16, 65:18, 121:22, 126:9 stand [11] - 8:20, 17:8, 40:8, 40:17, 63:16, 132:19, <u>138:12, 138:16,</u> 139:10, 139:23, 139:25 standard [4] - 66:15, 118:13, 118:16, 177:25 standing [11] -38:25, 39:9, 58:15, 65:10, 67:25, 91:3, 91:4, 91:5, 96:20, 126:4 start [7] - 3:22, 15:2, 80:16, 154:8, 157:15, 160:23, 194:16 started [3] - 34:19, <u>158:14, 161:11</u> starting [2] - 17:11. 17:12 state [4] - 44:22, 80:3, 144:13, 145:12 **statement** [6] - 2:8, 2:9, 6:6, 136:25, <u>184:4, 184:5</u> statements [11] -3:23, 4:7, 4:8, 4:12, 6:18, 16:21, 18:5, 18:17, 20:18, 47:19 states [3] - 62:19, 145:13, 145:14 **STATES** [2] - 1:1, 1:8 stateside [1] - 32:18 stating [1] - 176:12 status_[1] - 73:10 stay [4] - 18:13, 61:12, 67:7, 194:19 staying [1] - 194:8 steadfastly [1] -29:18 **step** [7] - 44:10, 78:12, 133:11, 140:11, 144:7, 182:18, 192:23 steps [4] - 38:24, 109:13, 128:5, 128:10 still [13] - 29:13, 30:20, 118:20, 133:1, 136:1, 152:20, 167:20, 168:15, 175:17, 175:22, <u>178:20, 178:22, 184:2</u> stipulate [1] - 6:2

stipulated [2] -87:13, 87:16 stock [2] - 120:14, 120:22 stocks [1] - 165:20 stool [2] - 77:9, 77:12 stop[8] - 53:14, 108:23, 109:2, 129:4, <u>131:20, 162:11,</u> 169:5, 169:20 stopped [2] - 71:2, 158:17 stops [1] - 131:16 stored [1] - 76:8 stories [1] - 14:2 story [1] - 34:2 straight [1] - 72:14 straightening [1] -<u>121:17</u> strange [1] - 24:12 Street [2] - 1:13, 1:24 strict[1] - 12:18 stricter [1] - 15:22 strike [6] - 71:3, 93:19, 126:22, 152:2, 161:2, 169:8 struck [1] - 162:20 structure [2] - 76:15. 83:22 struggling [13] -22:21, 36:4, 36:10, 36:18, 36:19, 37:8, <u>37:23, 53:17, 54:4,</u> 128:20, 128:24, 148:9, 192:13 stuff [4] - 61:21, 65:12, 65:21, 121:20 style [1] - 125:4 subject [4] - 13:13, 13:21, 20:3, 79:16 submit [1] - 137:25 submits [1] - 31:21 subordinate [1] -<u> 157:1</u> subordinates [1] -88:13 substantial [1] - 23:7 suggest [1] - 170:25 Suite [1] - 1:16 Sullivan [1] - 36:23 summarize [1] - 8:12 summations [1] -7:13 supersize [1] - 147:6 supervise [1] - 83:7 supervised [1] -145:17 supervises [1] -95:21

supervision [1] -196:25 supervisor [12] -<u>26:10, 27:10, 57:6,</u> 63:16, 74:10, 81:15, 82:24, 83:4, 95:20, 106:5, 106:22, 118:14 supervisors [2] -22:3, 25:9 supervisory [1] -<u>85:18</u> support [1] - 4:14 supposed [4] -27:15, 69:5, 89:13, surgeon [1] - 42:6 surgery [1] - 42:22 surprised [5] -<u>159:18, 159:22,</u> 160:4, 160:5, 160:11 surrounding [1] -12:23 sustain [1] - 10:25 **sustained** [3] - 6:9, 71:4, 184:13 swear [1] - 3:9 sweeping [1] - 121:9 switched [1] -135:15 sworn [8] - 3:10, 4:2, 4:25, 44:20, 80:1, 140:6, 140:15, 144:11 sympathy [1] - 14:22 system [1] - 98:23

<u>T</u>

task [2] - 8:21, 131:13 team [8] - 22:7, 22:13, 23:14, 26:7, 28:23, 48:3, 48:6, <u>48:8</u> techniques [1] -<u>66:12</u> temporary [4] -32:20, 32:21, 166:7, 168:17 ten [12] - 43:20, 45:23, 46:3, 47:7, 51:2, 67:1, 81:25, 82:7, 82:11, 85:8, 133:21 term_[16] - 15:21, 25:5, 28:8, 28:15, 29:13, 29:19, 30:1, 30:19, 31:5, 152:21, 158:7, 158:10, 159:21, 160:9, 161:20, 178:3

42:15, 180:18 terminology [1] -178:13 terms [8] - 18:2, 38:13, 59:23, 173:12, 173:13, 173:20, <u>175:21, 184:3</u> testified [11] - 5:3. 60:5, 60:6, 62:15, <u>66:17, 75:7, 160:13, </u> 166:14, 168:5, 178:15, 189:18 testify [6] - 31:6, 38:16, 44:19, 71:12, 80:1, 144:10 testifying [1] -122:25 testimony [47] -<u>4:22, 4:25, 5:24, 6:20,</u> <u>7:5, 7:21, 7:25, 8:4,</u> 8:5, 8:12, 10:9, 10:15, 10:20, 17:10, 23:15, 26:5, 28:2, 34:6, 38:9, 40:5, 40:21, 43:3, 43:15, 56:7, 74:5, 89:22, 90:13, 105:2, 122:8, 132:17, <u>134:16, 137:8,</u> <u>137:12, 138:18,</u> 139:20, 140:7, 140:9, 140:25, 141:13, 149:17, 155:24, <u>156:2, 164:15,</u> 172:22, 186:23, 188:15, 192:5 **THE** [150] - 1:1, 1:1, 1:8, 3:4, 3:8, 3:11, 3:20, 4:1, 18:15, <u>18:25, 19:5, 19:11,</u> <u>19:15, 19:25, 20:8,</u> 20:16, 33:12, 43:16, 44:6, 44:9, 44:14, 44:16, 44:23, 45:5, 49:20, 50:1, 50:11, 50:12, 50:14, 50:15, 50:17, 50:19, 50:21, 50:22, 50:24, 56:12, 56:19, 59:1, 60:8, 71:1, 71:4, 71:15, 73:20, 77:15, 77:17, 77:18, 77:20, 78:1, 78:4, 78:8, 78:11, 78:13, 78:14, 78:17, 78:20, 78:23, 79:3, 79:6, 79:9, 79:10, 79:16, 79:19, 79:22,

80:4, 87:3, 92:9, 96:7,

terminated [2] -

terminating [2] -

42:14, 176:25

102:19, 102:21, 103:4, 105:24, 106:1, 116:6, 129:13, 132:14, 133:10, 133:13, 133:14, 134:1, 134:10, 134:25, 135:16, 135:25, 136:15, 136:18, 137:3, 137:9, 137:14, 137:17, 137:20, 138:2, 138:10, 138:14, 138:20, 138:22, 139:2, 139:6, 139:14, 140:5, 140:14, 140:22, 141:7, 141:9, 141:19, 141:22, 141:25, 142:5, 142:7, 142:11, 142:15, 142:22, 142:25, 143:4, 143:6, 143:16, 143:22, 144:3, 144:6, 144:14, 159:25, 164:7, 164:18, 164:25, 177:14, 181:22, 182:5, 182:15, 182:22, 182:25, 183:23, 184:6, 184:9, 184:15, 184:24, 185:1, 185:5, 185:8, 185:12, 187:25, 188:8, 190:4, 192:22, 192:24, 192:25, 193:16, 193:20, 193:23, 194:5, 194:21, 194:24 themselves [2] -35:7, 164:24 thereafter [1] - 17:12 therefore [6] - 7:24, 9:13, 20:21, 54:15, 146:24, 164:22 thinking [2] - 30:2, 91:19 thinks [2] - 24:11, 28:12 third [3] - 6:20, 13:10, 185:23 thirty [1] - 40:19 three [5] - 16:18, 62:14, 63:12, 72:13, 138:8 three-page [1] -138:8 throughout [2] -25:21, 164:20 tightly [1] - 162:8 Tim [14] - 2:19, 19:2, 56:1, 57:6, 68:12, 72:19, 83:1, 83:4,

117:9, 128:14, 140:18, 143:25, 149:4, 151:10 tip [1] - 15:17 title [1] - 82:22 titled [2] - 51:15, 88:21 today [8] - 73:17, 79:4, 79:7, 135:11, <u>177:6, 177:11,</u> 178:22, 186:23 today's [5] - 3:13, 17:25, 162:9, 194:6, <u> 194:14</u> toe [1] - 128:2 toes[1] - 91:14 together [4] - 111:3, 173:23, 173:24, 188:16 tomorrow [8] -17:11, 40:6, 135:6, 136:7, 138:1, 194:16, 194:19, 194:25 took [5] - 34:10, 102:8, 130:20, 161:16, 187:21 tools [3] - 51:23, 52:16, 88:6 top [5] - 27:20, 82:10, 82:12, 106:14, 131:6 total [1] - 84:25 totally [1] - 32:5 touch [1] - 91:14 tough [3] - 31:3, 31:4, 63:13 toward [2] - 31:7, 107:24 towards [1] - 108:6 traffic [1] - 17:15 tragically [1] - 27:25 trailer [1] - 121:13 transcribing [1] -7:21 TRANSCRIPT [1] -1:7 transcript [23] - 4:24, <u>7:23, 8:3, 19:3, 19:7,</u> <u>19:19, 19:20, 19:24,</u> 20:3, 28:4, 56:22, 87:2, 134:7, 136:20, 136:21, 136:24, 137:22, 139:17, 139:22, 140:13, 143:8, 196:12, 196:23 transcripts [1] - 9:6 traveling [1] - 17:17 traverse [2] - 148:23, <u>160:6</u> treat [1] - 152:12

treated [1] - 11:18 treating [1] - 30:8 Trial [2] - 2:2, 196:3 TRIAL [1] - 1:7 trial [28] - 3:5, 4:3, 5:1, 5:3, 5:13, 6:10, 7:6, 7:22, 9:9, 9:16, 10:10, 10:12, 10:18, 10:22, 11:10, 11:12, <u>12:13, 13:10, 16:11,</u> 16:16, 23:9, 25:21, <u>27:6, 28:5, 29:6, 33:9,</u> 79:12, 196:10 tries [2] - 30:23, 168:2 Trindle [1] - 1:16 trouble [10] - 75:24, 90:22, 90:25, 91:4, 91:8, 92:19, 109:12, 112:16, 148:24, 179:1 truck [21] - 21:13, 34:5, 37:15, 37:20, 46:2, 61:5, 64:3, 64:15, 64:18, 64:19, 64:21, 88:11, 98:1, 98:2, 98:7, 98:13, 99:20, 120:7, 124:6, <u>124:10, 145:4</u> Truck [93] - 2:1, 4:15, <u>4:18, 4:21, 15:6,</u> <u>15:15, 15:19, 16:1,</u> 16:7, 16:12, 21:9, 21:13, 22:7, 22:11, 22:12, 22:14, 23:10, 23:14, 23:17, 23:24, 24:13, 24:25, 25:15, 25:24, 26:7, 26:12, 26:18, 26:24, 28:7, 28:20, 28:21, 28:22, 28:25, 29:4, 29:7, 29:8, 29:10, 29:12, 29:25, 30:21, 31:1, 31:12, 31:16, 31:23, 32:22, 33:5, 33:6, 35:1, 37:14, 44:12, 45:10, 45:13, 45:25, 46:1, 46:14, 46:23, 51:16, 57:14, 74:8, 80:9, 80:13, 80:17, 80:19, 80:23, 81:1, 81:8, 82:18, 83:8, 101:4, 107:22, 107:25, 108:19, 113:25, 144:23, 145:3, 145:7, 146:2, 146:12, 151:16, 152:3, 153:22, 154:24, 155:8, 155:14, 158:21,

159:7, 159:20,

177:24, 181:3, 181:13, 186:10, 189:3, 196:1 TRUCK [1] - 1:4 Truck's [2] - 21:12, 25:2 truckload [3] - 61:2, 64:16 trucks [5] - 46:3, 120:11, 124:2, 145:5, 145:6 true [25] - 49:15, 51:11, 57:14, 57:25, 74:14, 74:25, 76:2, <u>104:19, 130:18,</u> 130:24, 131:2, 148:7, <u>148:13, 150:11,</u> <u>150:17, 158:3,</u> 158:20, 158:23, 158:24, 159:4, 159:8, 159:12, 181:12, 186:8, 192:14 truly [1] - 92:4 truth [1] - 54:25 **try** [6] - 8:11, 13:7, 17:13, 43:19, 66:10, 191:5 trying [5] - 73:8, 88:8, 129:22, 160:6, 161:16 turn [5] - 20:21, 52:19, 59:7, 119:3, 148:2 turned [1] - 103:1 turning [1] - 185:22 tweet [1] - 12:22 tweeting [1] - 194:13 twelve [1] - 84:25 twenty [2] - 82:2, 82:9 two [40] - 21:15, 25:19, 38:4, 41:18, <u>45:14, 47:11, 47:15,</u> 59:17, 62:13, 63:3, 63:7, 63:11, 65:18, 65:19, 72:13, 73:<u>11,</u> <u>75:3, 77:21, 77:23, </u> <u>80:21, 81:7, 81:11,</u> 84:14, 85:2, 104:6, 118:20, 124:7, 124:22, 125:6, 127:4, 132:6, 141:6, 142:13, 145:7, 157:13, 158:12, 165:12, 174:18, 189:21, 194:10 two-wheeled [1] type [4] - 26:19, 36:17, 152:17, 175:14 typewritten [1] - 41:9 typical [3] - 66:15. 74:16, 92:13 typically [4] - 76:8, 84:11, 86:14, 115:19

<u>U</u>

U.S [1] - 1:24

unable [6] - 7:8,

32:2, 32:15, 40:13, 92:24, 180:8 unanswered [1] -11:2 unassisted [6] -86:9, 87:12, 87:19<u>,</u> 122:21, 123:6, 123:7 <u>under [10] - 11:18,</u> <u>28:2, 72:19, 76:17,</u> 77:22, 81:25, 107:13, 119:15, 162:23, 196:24 underneath [2] -77:21, 82:11 understood [2] -19:11, 133:4 undertake [1] - 14:4 unfair [1] - 10:23 unfolded [1] - 170:1 unfortunately [1] -135:13 unfriendly [1] -13:25 UNITED [2] - 1:1, 1:8 unless [1] - 196:24 unload [3] - 64:18, 98:13, 120:11 unloaded [1] - 61:4 unloading [1] - 98:2 unmarked [1] -<u> 191:19</u> unreasonable [1] -<u>173:6</u> unrelated [1] -<u>153:17</u> unusual [4] - 17:18, 161:18, 167:17, 167:18 **up** [63] - 10:6, 17:24, 24:2, 24:18, 28:18, 29:22, 30:13, 33:8, 38:16, 38:22, 62:20, 63:1, 63:12, 64:2, 64:5, 64:8, 64:21, 65:12, 72:14, 73:22, 75:11, 76:19, 76:20, 77:5, 77:24, 77:25, 89:5, 90:11, 97:1, 109:12, 118:16,

118:21, 120:7, 121:9,

121:11, 121:14, 122:16, 123:16, 123:23, 125:9, 126:9, 127:21, 128:5, 128:10, 129:10, 135:2, 135:5, 135:9, 135:10, 146:16, 146:22, 154:16, 159:6, 160:3, 171:8, 172:15, 177:23, 178:6, 178:8, 179:10, 191:12, 194:11 uphold [1] - 11:1 upset [2] - 158:20. 170:3 uses [1] - 22:1 utilize [1] - 165:21 utilized [3] - 51:23. 52:16, 161:7

V

vacant [9] - 181:12, <u>182:11, 186:10,</u> 186:20, 186:24, 187:1, 187:9, 188:4, 188:13 valuable [5] - 9:10, 21:2, 151:16, 178:25, 179:7 varied [1] - 84:13 varies [1] - 90:8 various [2] - 140:22, 141:1 vehicle [1] - 121:1 vendors [1] - 120:15 verbal [1] - 92:10 verdict [8] - 5:9, 5:10, 9:13, 11:12, 12:11, 14:25, 15:19, 33:10 verified [1] - 61:7 Veronica [1] - 1:19 versus [1] - 72:18 via [2] - 12:21, 14:6 video [2] - 40:5, 40:6 view [1] - 18:19 views [1] - 9:4 violated [1] - 21:9 vision [2] - 34:13. 45:4 visit_[1] - 49:16 voir [2] - 3:13, 33:8 volume [1] - 27:16 vote [1] - 177:8

<u>W</u> wages [1] - 146:23

vs [3] - 1:4, 2:1,

196:1

17:20, 136:13 waiting [1] - 43:6 walk [29] - 23:11, 36:10, 37:8, 37:23, 40:8, 40:18, 57:7, 67:2, 81:24, 93:9, <u>111:9, 112:1, 120:19,</u> 124:13, 125:17, 125:24, 127:18, 128:21, 128:25, 129:19, 129:25, <u>130:7, 130:16,</u> 132:19, 133:1, 148:9, 166:3, 180:8 walker [5] - 39:3, 42:3, 135:8, 136:11, 136:12 Walker[1] - 39:10 walking [27] - 22:18, 23:8, 36:19, 38:25, 39:9, 43:10, 52:21, 53:6, 53:9, 65:9, 66:18, 67:22, 93:4, 93:6, 93:7, 96:17, 101:13, 101:21, <u>107:16, 109:3,</u> 110:22, 112:16, 126:4, 126:10, 126:25, 148:15 Wallace [3] - 183:8, 183:20, 184:21 Walnut[1] - 1:24 Walsh [1] - 194:4 wants [1] - 28:19 warehouse [164] -21:12, 21:17, 21:20, 22:13, 22:15, 22:17, 22:23, 22:24, 23:21, 26:9, 26:10, 27:11, 27:24, 34:4, 34:5, 34:7, 34:19, 35:19, 36:7, 38:5, 38:19, 38:23, 41:4, 41:20, 41:22, 43:1, 46:13, 46:16, 47:15, 49:1, 49:4, 49:8, 50:2, 50:6, 50:9, 51:24, 54:9, 54:16, 55:9, 55:15, 57:8, 57:13, 57:19, 59:23, 60:4, 60:5, 60:10, 60:13, 60:15, 60:16, 61:3, 61:6, 61:11, 61:12, 62:23, 63:17, 64:17, 64:22, 64:25, 65:7, 65:15, 65:16, 66:2, 66:11, 67:4, 67:8, 67:17, 67:23, 69:14, 74:6, 74:16, 74:25, 75:3,

wait [3] - 11:25,

75:20, 76:3, 81:2, 81:13, 81:14, 83:22, 83:23, 84:12, 84:17, 85:13, 85:23, 86:9, 86:10, 86:15, 86:19, 88:7, 89:19, 90:3, 90:14, 92:13, 93:25, 94:7, 94:19, 94:21, 94:23, 95:21, 99:3, 100:20, 102:8, 107:19, 115:14, 115:17, 115:18, 115:23, 116:1, 116:15, 116:18, 116:22, 116:25, 117:1, 117:6, 118:6, 120:9, 123:5, 123:6, 123:8, 126:1, 128:17, 128:23, 129:16, 132:18, 147:6, 147:25, 148:25, 149:2, 150:4, 150:18, 151:2, 151:5, 151:11, 154:19, 154:24, 155:18, 156:3, 156:9, 159:1, 169:10, 169:14, 170:9, 170:10, 170:19, 171:16, 173:11, 175:11, 175:16, 175:24, 180:4, 180:12, 181:1, 181:9, 187:1, 187:7, 187:14, 188:3, 189:25, 190:21, 192:13, 192:16, 192:17 Warehouse [58] -21:14, 22:19, 24:3, 27:24, 28:18, 47:12, 47:13, 48:22, 49:13, 49:16, 49:21, 49:22, 50:7, 50:14, 50:20, 51:1, 51:5, 52:21, 60:4, 60:23, 60:25, 61:13, 65:1, 68:14, 73:25, 74:11, 74:21, 76:2, 77:9, 81:7, 81:8, 81:23, 82:21, 82:23, 83:24, 84:4, 84:7, 84:10, 84:24, 85:6, 85:10, 85:13, 86:2, 95:20, 97:18, 98:25, 99:3, 99:9, 115:14, 116:9, 117:9, 132:18, 147:10, 147:17, 147:22, 158:15, 158:22 warehouses [11] -21:15, 46:15, 46:18, 47:9, 47:16, 68:11,

81:7, 81:12, 81:14,

81:16 warning [1] - 21:3 warranty [2] -147:21, 147:22 Wayne [1] - 1:20 ways [1] - 66:15 websites [3] - 13:3, 14:9, 14:10 week [3] - 48:7, 147:17, 147:24 weekly [1] - 117:4 weeks [2] - 29:20, 174:18 weigh [4] - 62:4, 62:12, 62:13 weighed [2] - 101:2, <u>101:5</u> weight [5] - 9:3, <u>63:6, 63:7, 64:4,</u> <u>90:10</u> weights [2] - 26:19, <u>101:8</u> well-being [1] -160:10 Wes [1] - 136:16 Wesley [3] - 1:23. 196:15, 196:17 wheeled [2] - 124:7, 124:22 wheels [3] - 77:15, 77:23, 77:24 whitmire [2] - 36:22, 54:1 Whitmire [35] - 2:15, <u>47:4, 48:5, 53:20,</u> 55:13, 56:2, 57:17, <u>58:6, 68:9, 78:16,</u> 79:25, 80:4, 80:6, 88:22, 95:1, 103:1, 103:7, 103:9, 106:3, 106:17, 107:11, <u>116:8, 122:7, 129:15,</u> 132:16, 133:12, 135:4, 148:4, 148:18, 149:22, 151:19, 161:10, 162:13, <u>163:24, 193:5</u> Whitmire's [1] - 47:5 whole [5] - 64:13. 83:9, 91:18, 173:10, 176:18 wholeheartedly [1] -171:13 wholesale [2] - 46:1, <u>46:4</u> wife [1] - 35:11 willing [7] - 187:3, 187:14, 188:10, 190:24, 192:5, 192:6, 192:8

willingness [1] -187:6 window [2] - 36:5, 50:8 Winter [1] - 1:19 wise [1] - 167:5 wish [2] - 7:11, 8:22 withdrawn [2] -136:24, 137:25 withhold [1] - 14:13 witness [27] - 4:23, 5:1, 5:2, 7:9, 8:19, 11:2, 17:6, 17:7, 17:8, 43:21, 44:7, 45:4, 56:14, 67:4, 78:14, 78:15, 78:24, 79:2, 100:10, 138:12, 138:15, 139:23, 139:25, 184:4, 184:17, 185:13 WITNESS [16] -44:23, 50:1, 50:12, 50:15, 50:19, 50:22, 77:17, 77:20, 78:4, 78:13, 79:9, 80:4, 133:13, 144:14, 184:24, 192:24 witness's [1] - 10:9 witnessed [3] -110:22, 111:25, 112:18 WITNESSES [1] -2:10 witnesses [14] -4:16, 4:20, 5:25, 8:18, 10:7, 10:8, 10:12, 13:12, 13:21, 44:13, 44:17, 79:13, 134:22, 135:3 wondering [1] -50:11 wooden [2] - 76:9. <u>76:15</u> wording [1] - 70:9 words [1] - 188:23 worker [43] - 21:12, 21:17, 22:23, 26:9, <u>27:24, 28:13, 33:19,</u> 33:20, 34:4, 35:20, 37:5, 59:23, 60:4, 62:23, 63:17, 72:7, 72:8, 74:16, 74:25, 81:2, 82:23, 85:13, 85:23, 86:9, 86:10, 89:20, 90:3, 90:14, 90:17, 92:13, 94:1, 94:8, 94:23, 115:18, 123:5, 123:6, 129:16,

132:18, 155:18,

<u>156:3, 159:1, 187:8,</u>

191:7 worker's [6] -153:17, 153:20, 153:25, 154:1, 162:18, 163:19 workers [14] - 51:24, 66:11, 75:4, 76:3, 88:7, 94:19, 95:21, <u>115:14, 115:17,</u> 115:23, 116:2, 123:8, 128:23, 154:19 works [4] - 21:14, 22:15, 28:21, 146:19 worried [1] - 67:17 worse [5] - 159:11, 159:16, 170:6, 170:12, 171:15 write [2] - 75:11, 188:20 writing[1] - 41:8 written [6] - 7:22, 8:2, 38:6, 40:2, 75:15, 121:25 wrongly [1] - 13:16 wrote [6] - 39:25, 40:1, 40:2, 182:13, 188:21, 189:5

<u>Y</u>

Year [1] - 31:4
year [6] - 27:25, 31:6,
31:7, 81:21, 104:17,
126:20
years [11] - 21:18,
24:5, 28:15, 32:16,
45:23, 49:1, 72:13,
145:2, 152:20, 159:6
yourself [7] - 17:15,
48:1, 84:3, 126:13,
161:3, 161:12, 185:24
yourselves [3] 12:8, 43:24, 133:17